DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 212 271 IR 009 977

TITLE	Guide to Records in the New York State Archives.
INSTITUTION	New York State Education Dept., Albany. Office of Cultural Education.
PUB DATE	81
NOTE	172p.; Photographs may not reproduce.
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC07 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Archives; *Public Agencies; *Records (Forms); *State Government; *State History
IDENTIFIERS	Manuscript Collections; *New York State Archives

ABSTRACT

This guide lists and describes New York State historical materials, ranging from seventeenth century Dutch colonial records to recent files of state agencies, held by the New York State Archives. The 58 entries in the guide are arranged in accordance with the present organizational structure of the state government, with separate sections for the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The section devoted to the executive branch covers records from the governor's office, the lieutenant governor's office, all executive department subdivisions, and all state departments and agencies. Materials listed for the legislative branch include Senate and Assembly records. Each entry includes a historical note on the office, agency, or governmental branch along with a list of relevant records. A note on local government records is appended. (JL)

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GUIDE TO RECORDS IN THE NEW YORK STATE ARCHIVES

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1981

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PREFACE

People in each age examine the past for guidance, reinterpret its lessons in light of their own needs and perceptions, and act, thereby creating a record for those who follow. The accumulated capital in this memory bank comprises that culture's archives, that information of enduring value. As the memory bank of New York State government, the State Archives preserves and makes available information that enables all citizens to better understand how public policy evolves from the past, governs the present, and affects the future. This *Guide to Records in the New York State Archives* represents the significant commitment of the State Archives to preserve and describe the State's historically valuable records and to make them available to government officials, scholars, and the general public.

Records in the State Archives span the period from seventeenth century Dutch colonial settlement to the present. Most records from the Dutch and British colonial eras, the Revolutionary War years, and the early statehood period survived the exigencies of changing administrations, war, and the passage of time. In 1797 the State Legislature ordered construction of a special building in Albany to house valuable government records. The Secretary of State served as chief custodian of these records, but in 1847 the Legislature directed that the Secretary of State deliver to the Regents of The University of The State of New York "...documents of historic interest relative to and connected with the annals of the State" for preservation in the State Library which had been established in 1818. Later legislation provided for the transfer of additional material, and the Library assumed responsibility for the preservation of many of the State's historic records. New York's records preservation program received a major setback in 1911 when a fire in the State Capitol destroyed much of the Library's holdings. Extraordinary efforts by the Library staff saved a major portion of the records, which were moved to new quarters in the State Education Building a year later. In 1971 the Legislature created the State Archives within the State Education Department, and state government records were transferred from the Library to Archives custody when the new storage and research facility in the Cultural Education Center was opened in 1978.

This volume serves as a systematic guide to the history of state government. It sets a pattern for development of a modern archives program combining the key elements of identification, description, conservation, and accessibility. The Archives of New York State government are among our most significant cultural resources. Use of these records can enrich the educational experience of our citizens, contribute to the decision-making process of our government, and offer a reasoned perspective for planning our future. We hope that this *Guide* will encourage such use.

Robert J. Maurer
Executive Deputy
Commissioner of Education

Introduction

The New York State Archives, established within the State Education Department in 1971, has the mandate to preserve and make available official records that have enduring historical value. Since the opening of the Archives storage and research facility in the Albany Cultural Education Center in 1978, approximately 25,000 cubic feet of records have been transferred to the State Archives and additional records are accessioned continually. All but a small part of the Archives' holdings are records created by state government agencies, including nearly 10,000 cubic feet that had previously been deposited in the New York State Library. The remainder consists of local government records, but most permanently valuable local records remain by design in municipal custody.

The publication of this *Guide to Records in the New York State Archives* summarizes the first three years of work by Archives staff—up to December 1980—to appraise, acquire, arrange, describe, and facilitate the use of records ranging from seventeenth century Dutch colonial material to recent files of state agencies. The fifty-eight entries in the *Guide* are arranged in accordance with the present organizational structure of state government, following a basic tenet of archival practice that records created, received, or accumulated by an administrative agency in the conduct of its business be kept together, apart from those of all other agencies. There are separate sections for the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government, but the bulk of the *Guide* is devoted to an entry for each agency within the executive branch.

Each entry consists of two parts: an administrative history of the agency and a list of agency records in the State Archives. The history, which outlines the legal authority, major functions, and historical development of each agency, provides an indication of what records or why particular records are found in the agency. Histories of all major state agencies are included, even if the Archives does not have any records, to provide information on agencies which may themselves retain records of interest to researchers. Only a few offices, boards, commissions, and interstate agencies have been omitted from the *Guide*. The histories contain citations to the most important statutes that authorized creation of each agency and its administrative predecessors. Some histories also include references to relevant provisions of the state constitutions of 1777, 1821, 1846, and 1894, and to a 1925 constitutional amendment which authorized the reorganization and consolidation of the executive branch of state government into the basic structure that exists today.

The second part of each entry contains a list of agency records series, that is, units of records of the same form or that deal with the same subject or activity or that are arranged serially. In some cases the series lists have been divided according to the names of predecessor agencies or the administrative structure of the agency or according to major functions. For each series there is given a title, inclusive dates, and the approximate quantity expressed in cubic feet (cf.), volumes (vol.), or microfilm reels. Quantities of less than one-half a cubic foot are designated by -.5. If access to all or a portion of a series may be restricted for any reason, the letter "R" follows the description. Further information on use of restricted records can be obtained from the State Archives.

The publication of this *Guide* is intended to give an overview of the holdings of the State Archives, thereby encouraging use of the records and promoting a better understanding of the history and functions of state government. It is expected that this *Guide* will gradually be superseded by descriptive inventories of the Archives' holdings for each state agency, containing more detailed information on agency functions and the resultant records. Archives staff have already begun this process of further description, and persons interested in using the records are encouraged to visit, write, or phone the State Archives for additional information. Records are available for use in the Archives search room on the eleventh floor of the Cultural Education Center, which is open Monday through Friday, except state holidays, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The State Archives mailing address and phone number are indicated below:

New York State Archives
The State Education Department
Cultural Education Center
Albany, New York 12230
(518) 474-8955

Acknowledgments

Publication of this *Guide* was made possible by the combined efforts of many persons on the State Archives staff. Edward Weldon, former State Archivist, initiated the project. A preliminary draft was compiled by John Schoolfield and Roger E. Ritzmann under the supervision of Bruce W. Dearstyne. The final version of the *Guide* was written and compiled under the direction of Thomas Mills, who had substantial research and editorial assistance from Richard Andress, Bruce W. Dearstyne, William A. Evans, James Folts, Mark Jones, Daniel Lorello, and Kathleen Roe. Compilation of the record series titles was largely the responsibility of Kathleen Roe, assisted by James Folts, Evelyn Galante, William Gorman, Daniel Lorello, and Roger E. Ritzmann.

Dot Butch of the New York State Library and Kenneth L. Brock and his colleagues at the Local Records Section of the State Archives read an earlier draft of the *Guide* and offered valuable suggestions that made the final product better than it would have been otherwise.

We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of all New York State agencies who work with the State Archives to assure the preservation of valuable records. Robert P. Kerker of the Division of the Budget and Richard E. Gillman of the State University of New York were especially helpful in providing information on the history of their respective agencies.

PART I

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Governor

Executive Department

The first New York State constitution of 1777 provided that "the supreme executive power and authority of this state shall be vested in a governor." Subsequent constitutions of 1821, 1846, and 1894 provided succinctly that "the executive power shall be vested in a governor."

As chief executive officer, the Governor directs the administrative machinery of state government, which by the early twentieth century included nearly two hundred departments, offices, bureaus, and commissions that had been established by constitutional provision or by statute. In 1925 a constitutional reorganization required the consolidation of all state agencies into not more than twenty departments within the executive branch. One of the new departments, the Executive Department, remains under the direct supervision and serves as the administrative department of the Governor.

The provision of the first constitution vesting executive authority in a Governor created an office with precedents in New York's colonial era. Under the Dutch, from 1624 to 1664, New Netherland was administered by a Director General appointed by the Dutch West India Company. To assist the Director General, the Company also created a Council of four men empowered to offer advice, review local regulations, and serve with the Director General as a criminal and civil court. The Director General had broad powers to make laws and administrative decisions that were subject to approval of the Company and ultimately to the higher authority of the Netherlands.

From the British conquest in 1664 until 1685 (except for a fourteen-month period in 1673-74 when the Dutch regained control of the colony), New York was under the proprietorship of James, Duke of York, who had received a charter to the colony from his brother King Charles II. The Duke of York held the sole power to make laws and govern the colony, but he delegated most of these powers to a Governor, who was assisted by a Council. James succeeded his brother as king in 1685 and in 1688 established the Dominion of New England, which consolidated the royal colonies of New York, New Jersey, and New England as a single governmental entity. When James was overthrown in the Glorious Revolution in 1688, the dominion plan was abandoned and New York reverted to the status of a separate colony. Thereafter the king appointed a Governor who chose a Council to assist in administering the colony. After the establishment of a permanent colonial Assembly in 1691, the Council also functioned as the upper house of the Legislature. During the first half of the eighteenth century, the Assembly gradually took over many of the Governor's prerogatives, and by 1760 the powers to initiate legislation, control finances, and administer the colony were divided between the Assembly and the Governor and his Council.

When the Assembly refused to appoint a New York delegation to the Second Continental Congress in 1775, local committees of correspondence selected representatives to a new colony-wide legislative body known as the First Provincial Congress. This and three subsequent provincial congresses bridged the gap between colonial and state government, passing down orders to the local patriot committees. The colonial Assembly did not meet after April 1775 and the British Governor fled New York City in October of that year. A new British Governor returned to the city following the patriot military retreat in 1776, but by that time the Fourth Provincial Congress had approved the Declaration of Independence and renamed itself the Convention of Representatives of the State of New York. In April 1777 this Convention adopted a state constitution, and two months later George Clinton was elected first Governor of New York State.

New York's 1777 constitution created the office of Governor, who was empowered "to take care that the laws are faithfully executed" and "to transact all necessary business with the officers of government." The Governor was required to report on the condition of the state at each legislative session, could convene the legislature in special session, prorogue it, and recommend matters for legislative consideration. The Governor was designated commander-in-chief of the armed forces and could grant reprieves and pardons to persons convicted of crimes other than treason and murder. The constitution provided for the election of the Governor by freeholders for a three-year term, with no limit placed on the number of terms an individual might serve.

The framers of the 1777 document restricted executive power by means of a system of checks and balances that included a coordinate legislature, a Council of Appointment, and Council of Revision. The Council of Appointment, consisting of the Governor and four senators elected annually by the Assembly, selected nonelective public officials, except those otherwise provided for in the constitution. The Council of Revision, made up of the Governor, the Chancellor of the state's equity courts, and the justices of the Supreme Court, exercised a veto power over bills passed by the Legislature, but a two-thirds vote of both houses of the Legislature could override a veto.

Both councils were abolished by the second state constitution of 1821. The Legislature was given power to elect major government officials—the Comptroller, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Engineer, and Treasurer—but the Governor appointed other state officials with the consent of the Senate. Veto power was vested with the Governor but his veto could be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses. In addition, the Govenor no longer had the power to prorogue the Legislature, and his term of office was reduced to two years. The other powers and duties of the Governor were retained as in the first constitution, except that the power to grant pardons and reprieves was amended to exclude only treason and impeachment cases.

The third (1846) state constitution continued the powers and duties of the Governor defined in the second constitution. Legislative election of the five major administrative officers was discontinued in favor of popular election. The constitution required that the offices of Canal Commissioners (set up in 1817) and the new posts of three Prison Inspectors were also to be elected by popular vote. The constitution also directed that the Lieutenant Governor and other specified elected officials compose the Commissioners of the Land Board and Commissioners of the Canal Fund.

Constitutional amendments in 1874 increased the Governor's term of office to three years, allowed the Governor to veto individual items in appropriation bills,and provided that extraordinary sessions of the Legislature could consider only subjects recommended by the Governor. In 1876 amendments to the constitution provided for a Superintendent of Public Works and a Superintendent of State Prisons to be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate. The elective offices of Canal Commissioners and Prison Inspectors were abolished.

The fourth state constitution, which was approved by the voters in 1894 and remains today as the basic legal document of New York State government, continued previous constitutional definitions of the Governor's office but reduced his term of office to two years. The new constitution also provided for a State Board of Charities, State Commission in Lunacy, and State Commission of Prisons, with board and commission members to be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate.

By the early twentieth century the executive branch of state government had grown to include nearly 200 administrative departments, boards, and commissions. Constitutional amendments in 1925 and 1927 significantly consolidated these administrative officers and expanded the power of the executive office. A 1925 amendment reduced the number of elective officials to four—Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Comptroller, and Attorney General—and provided for the consolidation of all administrative agencies into not more than twenty state departments: Executive, Audit and Control, Taxation and Finance, Law, State, Architecture, Public Works, Conservation, Agriculture and Markets, Labor, Education, Health, Mental Hygiene, Social Welfare, Military and Naval Affairs, Correction, Public Service, Banking, Insurance, and Civil Service. Enabling legislation passed the following year (Ch. 343, L. 1926) created all of these departments except Architecture which became a division in the Department of Public Works and Military and Naval Affairs which was made part of the Executive Department. Four of the original eighteen departments—Public Works (now Transportation), Social Welfare (now Social Services), Correction (now Correctional Services), and Conservation (now Environmental Conservation)—have been renamed since 1926. A nineteenth department, Commerce was established in 1944 following a 1943 constitutional amendment, and a twentieth, Motor Vehicles, was formed in 1960, implementing a 1959 amendment.

Two laws (Ch. 546, L. 1926 and Ch. 646, L. 1928) defined the organization and duties of the Executive Department. It serves as the administrative department of the Governor, and through it the Governor supervises the activities of all other constitutional departments. The 1926 law established five divisions within the department—Budget, Military and Naval Affairs, State Police, Standards and Purchase, and Inter-Departmental Relations. The Division of Inter-Departmental Relations was abolished by the 1928 law, but the informal "Governor's cabinet," consisting of the Governor as

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chairman, the Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary to the Governor, and the heads of state departments who meet at the call of the Governor, continued to coordinate interdepartmental activities. Both the 1926 and the 1928 laws authorized the Governor to establish, consolidate, or abolish additional executive department divisions and bureaus; since 1928 numerous agencies, offices, divisions, and commissions have been created (and then sometimes altered or eliminated) by executive order or by statute.

In 1927 a constitutional amendment specified that the heads of all departments other than Audit and Control, Law, Education, and Agriculture and Markets be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate, and that they might be removed by the Governor in a manner prescribed by law. Another 1927 amendment required all departments to submit annually to the Governor itemized estimates of necessary appropriations and required the Governor then to submit to the Legislature an executive budget containing a complete plan of proposed expenditures and estimated revenues. A 1937 constitutional amendment increased the Governor's term of office to four years.

The Governor and immediate executive office staff, consisting of the Secretary to the Governor, Counsel to the Governor, Press Secretary, Appointments Officer, and other administrative advisors and assistants, have generally been referred to—both before and after reorganization—as the Executive Chamber. The pages immediately following this history list State Archives holdings acquired from the Executive Chamber. This is followed by an entry (history and record series list) for the Lieutenant Governor and then for each major subdivision within the Executive Department.

See also: Department of State.

Records

General Files

Correspondence and Subject Files. 1777-1974. 513 cf. and 1665 microfilm reels.

Includes records of the following gubernatorial administrations:

George Clinton	1777-1795, 1801-1804	82 cf.
Daniel D. Tompkins	1807-1817	20 cf.
Horatio Seymour	1863-1864	1.5 cf.
Frank W. Higgins	1905-1906	1 cf.
Charles E. Hughes	1907-1910	21 cf.
John A. Dix	1911-1912	13 cf.
William Sulzer	1913	11 cf.
Martin H. Glynn	1913-1914	16 cf.
Charles S. Whitman	1915-1918	27 cf.
Nathan L. Miller	1921-1922	30 cf.
Alfred E. Smith	1919-1920, 1923-1928	148 cf.
Franklin D. Roosevelt	1929-1932	9 cf. and 263 microfilm reels.
Herbert H. Lehman	1933-1942	134 cf. and 106 microfilm reels.
Thomas E. Dewey	1943-1954	488 microfilm reels.
Nelson A. Rockefeller	1959-1973	608 microfilm reels. R.
Malcolm Wilson	1973-1974	200 microfilm reels. R.

Journal of Pardons, Proclamations, and Nominations for Office. 1859-1916. 57 vols.

Register of Appointments, Requisitions, Governor's Messages, and Approval or Disapproval of Bills. 1859-1935. 80 vols.

Governor's Messages to the Legislature. 1957-1969. 1 cf.

Press Releases. 1923-1949. 6 cf.

Construction of the present State Capitol began in 1867, to replace the old Capitol (background center) built in 1809.

Records Relating to Action Taken on Legislation

Register of Titles of Bills Signed by the Governor. 1857-1870. 4 vols.

Index to Titles of Bills Signed by the Governor. 1899. 1 cf.

Register of Titles of Bills Received by the Governor. 1864-1913. 42 vols.

Index to Titles of Bills Received by the Governor. 1872-1912. 40 vols.

Notes on Bills Before the Governor. 1879. 2 vols.

Index to Bills Vetoed. 1912. 1 vol.

Legislative Bill Jackets (Bills Approved). 1906-1978. 665 cf.

Legislative Bill Jackets (Bills Vetoed). 1906-1978. 415 cf.

Executive Clemency Records

Applications for Executive Clemency and Pardon. ca. 1860-1926. 133 cf. R.

Applications for Restoration of Citizenship Rights. 1911-1918. 11 cf. R.

Pardon Ledgers. 1857-1937. 37 vols.

Clemency Ledgers. 1839-1901. 6 vols.

Restoration to Citizenship Rights Ledgers. 1857-1902. 6 vols.

Appointment Records

Applications for Appointive Office. 1857-1929. 85 cf.

Journal of Appointments Made by the Governor. 1858-1903. 7 cf.

Applications for Appointment as Notary Public. 1870-1916. 5 cf. and 22 vols.

Register of Appointments of Notary Public. 1830-1910. 99 vols.

County Clerks' Reports of Notary Public Appointments. 1915-1916. 3 cf.

Outgoing Correspondence of the Notary Department. 1885-1896. 10 vols.

Other Records

Requisitions and Mandates for Extradition. 1857-1938. 13 vols.

Reports of Commitments to and Discharge from Prisons and Reformatories. 1842-1909. 33 cf.

Citizen Complaints and Executive Investigations of Office Holders. 1877-1920. 60 cf.

Military and Other Accounts Approved by the Governor. 1862. 1 vol.

Register of Money Received for Building a Hall of Military Record. 1866-1868. 1 vol.

Register of Communications to the Governor on Military Affairs. 1865. 1 vol.

Brief on Precedents on Impeachment. ca. 1910. 1 vol.

Minutes and Public Hearings of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. 1951-1974. 11 cf.

Records of Temporary Executive Offices, Commissions, and Task Forces

The State Archives holds records of many commissions, offices, and task forces that were established as temporary government units charged with specific investigative or research duties. Since 1907 (Ch. 539), various "Moreland Act Commissions" have been established by order of the Governor to investigate the management of an agency or policy area. "Temporary State Commissions," each established by a separate statute, were ruled in a 1945 Attorney General's opinion to be adjuncts of the executive branch and not agencies of the Legislature. Upon their termination, temporary state commission records come under the jurisdiction of the Executive Chamber. In addition to Moreland Act and temporary state commissions, many temporary offices and task forces have been established by executive order of the Governor. (Note: for records of Joint Legislative Commissions, established by joint resolution of the Legislature, see the entry for the Legislature.)

The State Archives has records for the following:

Moreland Act Commissions

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the Insurance Department. 1907. 1 vol.

To Examine and Investigate the Management of the Affairs of the Office and Department of the State Superintendent of Elections for the Metropolitan District. 1909. 3 vols.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the State Commission in Lunacy, of the State Prisons and Reformatories, and of the Department of Excise and Highways, and the Office of Fiscal Supervisor of State Charities. 1911. 2 cf.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the Public Service Commission, First District. 1911. 1 cf.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the Department of Health Officer for the Port of New York. 1911. 1 vol.

To Examine and Investigate the Admission, Maintenance and Deportation of Alien Insane in State Hospitals and Management and Affairs of the State Commission in Lunacy. 1912. 2 vols.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of all State

Prisons and Reformatories including the Office of Superintendent of Prisons. 1913. 1 vol.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the Office of Fiscal Supervisor of State Charities; the State Board of Charities; the Sites, Buildings, and Grounds Commission; and the Salary Classification Commission. 1915. 1.5 cf.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the State Industrial Commission. 1919. 8 vols.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the Banking Department with Reference to the City Trust Co. 1929. microfilm.

To Examine and Investigate the Administration of Workmen's Compensation Law. 1942-1943. 63 cf.

To Examine and Investigate the Management and Affairs of the State Harness Racing Commission. 1953. 94 cf.

To Study and Examine the Management of the Urban Development Corporation. 1975. 2 cf.

Temporary State Commissions, Offices, and Task Forces

New York-Pennsylvania Boundary Commission. 1867-1868. 2 cf.

New York-New Jersey Joint Boundary Commission. 1888-1889. .5 cf.

New York-Massachusetts Boundary Commission. n.d. .5 cf.

Canal Investigating Commission. 1898-1899. 12 cf.

Factory Investigating Commission. 1911-1914. 44 cf.

Panama Pacific Exposition Commission. 1912-1914. 1 vol.

Commission for the Blind. 1913-1914. .5 cf.

Commission on the Relief of Widowed Mothers. 1913. 1.5 cf.

Civil War Monuments Commission. 1913-1930. partial microfilm reel.

Food Commission. 1917-1919. 1 vol.

Commission to Investigate Provision for the Mentally Deficient. 1914-1915. 10 cf.

Commission on State Pensions. 1918-1933. partial microfilm reel.

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Commission to Examine Laws Relating to Child Welfare. 1920. partial microfilm reel.

Bridge and Tunnel Commission. 1921. 1 vol.

Commission on the Administration of Justice. 1930-1939. partial microfilm reel.

Commission on Prison Administration and Construction. 1930-1933. partial microfilm reel.

Commission on Interstate Transmission of Power. 1931-1933. partial microfilm reel.

Commission on the Tristate Treaty on Pollution of Coastal Waters. 1931-1932. partial microfilm reel.

World's Fair Commission. 1936-1941. 54 cf.

Commission on the Extension of Civil Service. 1939-1941. 1 cf.

Commission on Revision and Codification of Laws Relating to Municipal Finance. 1939-1947. 68 cf.

Commission on Discrimination. 1944. 19.5 cf.

Commission on the Courts. 1945-1963. 192 cf.

Commission on the Need for a State University. 1946-1948. 12 cf.

Commission on the Coordination of State Activities. 1946-1960. 42 cf.

Long Island Railroad Commission. 1950-1951. 4 cf.

Commission on Educational Television. 1952-1953. 10 cf.

Commission on Fire Laws. 1953-1955. 1.5 cf.

Commission on Fiscal Affairs of Government. 1953-1954. .5 cf.

Commission on the Constitutional Convention. 1956-1961. 23 cf.

Joint Hospital Survey and Planning Commissions. 1959. 1 cf.

Commission on Constitutional Revision and Simplification. 1957-1960. 1 cf.

Commission to Make a Study of Governmental Operations of New York City. 1959-1973. 16.5 cf.

Civil War Centennial Commission. 1960-1963. 4.5 cf.

Commission on the Modernization, Revision and Simplification of the Law of Estates. 1961-1967. 12 cf.

Commission on the Environmental Impact of Major Public Utility Facilities. 1962-1972. 1 cf.

Commission on City Finances. 1964. 1 vol.

Commission on Quality Cost and Finance of Elementary and Secondary Education (Fleischman Commission). 1967-1972. 60 cf.

Commission on the Constitutional Convention. 1967. 2 cf.

Task Force on Financing Higher Education (Keppel Commission). 1972-1973. 5 cf.

Commission on the Cultural Resources of the State. 1972-1973. 12 cf.

Office of Educational Performance Review. 1973-1975. 2 cf.

Office of Lieutenant Governor

The powers and duties of the Lieutenant Governor have remained essentially unchanged since the first state constitution created the office. The Lieutenant Governor is elected along with the Governor. In case of the Governor's removal from office by impeachment, death, disability, resignation, or absence from the state, the Lieutenant Governor assumes the power and authority of chief executive until the Governor's return or a new election. The Lieutenant Governor is also designated president of the senate, but votes only in case of a tie. The Lieutenant Governor has statutory duties as a member of the Court for the Trial of Impeachments; an exofficio trustee of Cornell Univeristy and of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry; a member of the State Defense Council; and a member of the Committee on Public Access to Records.

Although the functions remain unchanged, the term of office has changed from three years in 1777, to two years under the second (1821) constitution, to three years by an 1876 amendment to the third (1846) constitution, back to two years under the 1894 constitution, and finally to its present four years by an amendment in 1937.

No Records in State Archives

Executive Department Subdivisions

Adirondack Park Agency

This agency was created in 1971 (Ch. 706) to assure the preservation of the Adirondack wilderness area that had been designated as part of a state forest preserve in 1885 and then as the Adirondack Park in 1892. The Agency was directed to cooperate with the Department of Environmental Conservation to prepare master plans for managing state land and regulating private property within the Adirondack Park. The legislation further empowered the Agency to review and approve land development plans within the park to prevent actions "which have an adverse effect on the park's unique scenic, historical, ecological and natural resources."

The master plan for management of state-owned land, approved by the Governor in 1972, provides for a balance between recreational development and use and protection of wilderness tracts. The Agency carries out this plan in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Conservation and other state agencies.

The land use and development plan for private lands, approved by the Governor in 1973, divides the park into six regions based on demography and potential use, establishes limits on development in each region, and sets a limit of two million people residing on private lands within the Park.

A 1972 law placed privately owned sections of rivers under the Agency's jurisdiction, and in 1975 river shoreline came under Agency supervision. The Freshwater Wetlands Act of 1975 provided the Agency with statutory authority for the environmental protection of these areas.

The Agency currently performs a variety of supervisory tasks including projecting and planning future development of the Adirondack Park, reviewing public and private land use projects, holding public hearings on proposed projects, assisting local governments in developing land use plans, and providing financial assistance to local planning boards. The Agency's Legal Affairs Division enforces administrative decisions and has the authority to initiate legal action if necessary.

See also: Department of Environmental Conservation and Office of Parks and Recreation.

No Records in State Archives

Office for the Aging

Policy formulation in this area began in 1947 with the creation of the Joint Legislative Committee to Study the Problems of the Aging. This committee was reconstituted annually by legislative resolution until 1969. Meanwhile, in 1955, an Interdepartmental Committee on Problems of the Aging was established by executive order to advise the Governor on problems and developments affecting the aging and to formulate recommendations for action. The Committee consisted of the heads of twelve state agencies and the Secretary to the Governor, who served as chairperson.

In 1960 the Governor established by executive order the New York State Committee of One Hundred for the 1961 White House Conference on Aging. The Interdepartmental Committee assisted the Committee of One Hundred in preparing a report on the issue of the aging in New York. As a result of this report, a 1961 executive order created an Office for the Aging within the Department of Social Welfare to administer programs of the Interdepartmental Committee. In 1965 (Ch. 444) the Office was transferred to the Executive Department.

This statute made the Office for the Aging responsible for planning, coordinating, and promoting programs and services for the elderly and for reviewing and reporting on proposed legislation affecting the elderly. The Office served as secretariat to the Interdepartmental Committee until that Committee was discontinued in 1974. Since then the Office has continued to provide technical assistance and guidance to other state agencies with programs affecting the elderly. In 1965 the Governor appointed an advisory committee to assist the director of the Office. The Office administers a variety of federal and state laws that provide financial assistance to public and private organizations that operate programs for the aging. It provides technical assistance, information, and referral services to state, regional, and local agencies and institutions. Further responsibilities were prescribed by a 1979 state law requiring New York City and each county outside that city to submit to the Office an annual plan detailing community services for the elderly. The Office reviews and approves these plans and then allocates funds to carry them out.

No Records in State Archives

Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control

In the final decades of the nineteenth century, declining property tax revenues led to a variety of new state taxes, including establishment of a liquor license fee in 1896. The Liquor Tax Law (Ch. 112), passed that year, abolished all local boards of excise that had previously collected liquor taxes for localities, and created the State Commissioner of Excise to control liquor traffic under a state fee-licensing system. The Commissioner of Excise appointed deputies or authorized county treasurers to issue liquor tax certificates and collect fees. Revenues were divided equally between the state and localities until 1915, when the tax was increased by twenty-five per cent and this increase was retained by the state.

The eighteenth amendment to the federal constitution outlawing manufacture or sale of alcoholic beverages eliminated this source of revenue from 1920 to 1933. Anticipating repeal of prohibition, the Legislature created the Commission on Alcoholic Beverage Control Legislation early in 1933. Upon its recommendation the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, headed by an Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, was created within the Executive Department later that year (Ch. 180). The Division, which was at first concerned only with beer and wine because it was not expected that the eighteenth amendment would be repealed entirely, issued licenses and permits and set standards for the manufacture and sale of beverages. In 1934 (Ch. 478) the Division's jurisdiction was expanded to include all alcoholic beverages, and the board was replaced by the State Liquor Authority consisting of five members appointed by the Governor.

The State Liquor Authority, operating through the division, promulgates regulations implementing the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law; issues licenses and permits for alcoholic beverage manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, and retailers; investigates alleged violations of the law; and conducts disciplinary proceedings. It also regulates the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages through brand label registration, control of wholesalers' profit margins, and price schedules.

No Records in State Archives

Council on the Arts

The Council on the Arts began in 1960 (Ch. 313) as a temporary state commission that was authorized to "make recommendations concerning appropriate methods to encourage participation and appreciation of the Arts." In 1961 the Commission submitted a report to the legislature, and subsequently received annual funding for the preservation and encouragement of the arts throughout the state. Four years later (Ch. 181, L. 1965) the Council was elevated to its present status as an agency in the Executive Department.

During its first decade of existence the Council sponsored tours of performing groups and of visual arts exhibitions, and conducted special seminars and technical assistance programs for cultural organizations and community arts councils. Since 1970 the Council has also received annual local assistance budget appropriations which are distributed as grants to assist nonprofit cultural organizations and institutions. The grants, which must be allocated to each county on a per capita basis are distributed in the following program areas: architecture and environmental arts, arts services, dance, film, literature, museum aid, music, theater, TV/media, visual arts services, special programs, and statewide service programs.

The Council consists of twenty members who are appointed by the Governor to represent all fields of the fine and performing arts. A chairman is designated from among the members by the Governor. An executive director and administrative staff carry out the Council's programs, including fiscal and program reviews of applicants for local assistance grants.

No Records in State Archives

Division of the Budget

This Division was established by legislation enacted in 1926, in anticipation of the adoption of the 1927 constitutional amendment requiring the Governor to prepare a state budget and the necessary appropriation bills to put it into effect. The Director of the Budget serves as the primary adviser to the Governor in fiscal matters and on the management of state government, and is responsible for formulating the executive budget and executing its provisions after adoption by the legislature.

Until the late nineteenth century the management of state finance rested largely upon the legislature, which appropriated money, and upon the comptroller who computed the amount of revenue needed to cover the legislative action and notified the counties of the amount they would be required to raise for the state through taxes on real and personal property. During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, however, this system proved unworkable and the revenue raised from local sources was inadequate to support expanded state business regulatory programs and supervision of health and welfare services. Therefore, the legislature added a variety of new taxes, largely collected directly by the state. (See Department of Taxation and Finance)

By the end of the century state officials recognized the need for a more unified fiscal management program. The New York Bureau of Municipal Research, a private group organized in 1906 to promote improved public administration,' also advocated a systematic state budget system. At the urging of the Bureau, the New York State Board of Estimate was established in 1913 (Ch. 281) to formulate a rudimentary budget and prepare appropriation bills. This board, consisting of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, President pro tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the Assembly, chairmen of the Senate Finance Committee and Assembly Ways and Means Committee, Comptroller, and Attorney General, was required to prepare and transmit to the legislature an estimated budget for the administration of state government. Also created in 1913 (Ch. 280) was the Department of Efficiency and Economy, headed by a commissioner who was also ex-officio Secretary to the Board of Estimate. This Department was empowered to study the accounts and methods of operation of administrative agencies, and to require and examine annual statements of proposed expenditures from each agency.

Ironically the Board and the Department were abolished in 1915 on the eve of a constitutional convention which proposed amendments to increase the Governor's responsibility to manage the executive branch and to develop a comprehensive financial plan for the operation of state government. Although the proposed constitution was defeated, the adoption of an executive budget system by the federal government in 1921 and the progress in other states helped maintain interest in developing a system of budgetary control for New York State.

A Board of Estimate and Control, a joint legislative-executive agency, was created in 1921 (Ch. 336) with responsibility for presenting a proposed plan of expenditures to the legislature, although the absence of a constitutional base for budgeting left the legislature more or less free to develop the appropriation bills as it had always done. Constitutional amendments of 1925 and 1927 not only reorganized state government to make the Governor the unchallenged head of the executive branch but also established an executive budget system. The enabling legislation that effected reorganization provided for the creation of the Division of the Budget within the Executive Department, abolished the Board of Estimate and Control, and transferred its personnel to the new Division (Ch. 546, L. 1926).

Governor Alfred E. Smith presented the state's first executive budget to the legislature in 1928, thus inaugurating a system that has continued intact until the present day. Under this system, executives of all state agencies are required to furnish the Division with estimates of the annual financial needs of their respective agencies, and to appear at hearings for review of these requests. The Division analyzes the requests and assists the Governor in formulating the state's fiscal program. It also oversees the state's fiscal affairs by controls over and studies of agency administration.

Records

Transcripts of Budget Hearings. 1932-1941. 6 cf.

Postwar Planning Commission Highway Route Maps. 1945-1949. 120 maps.

Memoranda on Proposed Legislation. 1970. 2 cf.

Consumer Protection Board

This Board was created in 1970 (Ch. 294) to coordinate the activities of all state agencies performing consumer protection functions. Consisting of a chairperson appointed by the Governor and the heads of eight state departments (Agriculture and Markets, Banking, Commerce, Environmental Conservation, Health, Insurance, Public Service, and State) with consumer-related regulatory activities, the Board's primary responsibilities include advocating consumer interests before federal, state and local government agencies; representing consumers in the legislative process; developing greater public awareness of consumer issues through educational programs; and providing services to local consumer agencies and public interest organizations. In 1974, additional legislation gave the Board authority to participate in utility rate cases and other proceedings before the Public Service Commission.

No Records in State Archives

Commission of Correction

The 1894 constitution and subsequent enabling legislation provided for a State Commission of Prisons, consisting of eight gubernatorial appointees, which was empowered to visit and inspect all penal institutions and to promote humane and efficient administration of these institutions. In 1901, Commission membership was reduced to three gubernatorial appointees, and the commissioners were also assigned to serve as a Board of Commissioners for Paroled Prisoners. This Board was abolished in 1908 and replaced by a Board of Parole for State Prisons that was independent of the Commission of Prisons. Meanwhile membership of the Commission of Prisons was increased to seven gubernatorial appointees.

As part of the 1925 reorganization of state government, the Department of Correction was created and the name of the Commission of Prisons was changed to Commission of Correction. The Commissioner of the new Department of Correction was added to the Commission of Correction as chairman. The Commission was placed within the administrative framework of the new Department but retained independent constitutional powers of visitation and inspection.

This administrative structure continued unitl 1973 (Ch. 398), when the Commission was made an independent agency within the Executive Department and a constitutional amendment removed the commissioner of the Department of Correctional Services from the Commission. The Commission functioned with only part-time members until 1975 (Ch. 865) when the present Commission with three full-time members and a support staff was established. Also created that year was a Citizens' Policy and Complaint Review Council, consisting of seven citizens appointed by the Governor.

The Commission's main responsibility is to advise and assist the Governor in developing policies, plans and programs for improving the administration of all correctional facilities in the state. It is empowered to set minimum standards for facility security, safety, sanitary conditions and rehabilitation programs; to visit, inspect and evaluate compliance with such standards; to review plans for new facility construction or modification of existing structures; to establish procedures to assure investigation of grievances and conditions affecting inmates; and to review health care systems and the circumstances of inmate deaths.

See also: Department of Correctional Services.

No Records in State Archives

Crime Victims Compensation Board

This Board was established in 1966 (Ch. 894) and located within the Executive Department. It reviews claims from and may recompense victims of violent crimes; or in the case of death, the surviving dependents. Compensation is made for medical expenses or loss of support, with the maximum payment for loss of income limited to $250 a week up to a total of $20,000. The Board consists of five gubernatorial appointees, three of whom must be lawyers admitted to practice in New York.

No Records in State Archives

Division of Criminal Justice Services

This Division was established in 1972 (Ch. 399) as a result of the consolidation of the New York State Identification and Intelligence System (NYSIIS), the Office for Local Government Division for Local Police, and the Office of Planning Services Division of Criminal Justice.

NYSIIS had been established in 1965 (Ch. 353) as a service agency within the Executive Department to gather, computerize, retrieve, and disseminate criminal justice information.

The Division for Local Police had been created in 1967 (Ch. 168) to make surveys, reports, and recommendations concerning the administration and operation of local police agencies and to provide staff services to the Municipal Police Training Council. This Council, composed of eight experienced law enforcement administrators appointed by the Governor, was initially established within the Office for Local Government in 1960, and was placed within the Office's

Division for Local Police in 1967. The Council supervises police training schools and programs.

The Division of Criminal Justice was established in 1971 (Ch. 75) as an administrative unit within the Executive Department Office of Planning Services. It assumed the duties of the former Office of Crime Control Planning, which was initially established—along with the Crime Control Planning Board—by a 1968 executive order. The Office of Crime Control Planning and its successor Division of Criminal Justice provided staff services to the Crime Control Planning Board.

This Board which is now located within the Division of Criminal Justice Services, is composed of twenty-nine gubernatorial appointees representing state and local governments and professional and citizen interests. It assists in the coordination of activities relating to criminal justice and juvenile deliquency, advises the Governor on crime control planning and program development, and allocates and distributes federal funds in New York State pursuant to the federal Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Control Act of 1968, as amended.

The Division of Criminal Justice Services is mandated to advise and assist the Governor in developing policies, plans, and programs for improving the administration and effectiveness of the state's criminal justice system; to act as the official state law enforcement planning agency; to gather, maintain, and make available criminal identification information to qualified agencies throughout the state, using computer and telecommunications technology; to serve as a central repository and clearinghouse of criminal justice data and research studies; and to provide staff support to the Crime Control Planning Board and Municipal Police Training Council.

No Records in State Archives

Economic Development Board

The predecessor to this Board, the Council of Economic Advisers, was created by executive order in 1968 to advise the Governor on economic and fiscal policy matters affecting the state, to study and report on economic trends in the state, to prepare an annual state economic report, and to make special economic and fiscal studies as deemed appropriate. The Council consisted of seven members appointed by the Governor, and was instructed not to duplicate the functions of existing agencies (E.O. 30, Nov. 1968).

The Council functioned until March 1975, when it was abolished and replaced by the Economic Development Board. This Board continued the functions and duties of the previous Council, served as the state's economic planning agency pursuant to the federal Public Works and Economic Development Act, and received and disbursed funds made available to the state under this act. The composition of the Board has changed twice since 1975 and now consists of the heads of the Division of the Budget and Departments of Agriculture and Markets, Commerce, Environmental Conservation, Labor, State, and Transportation, and other members appointed by the Governor (E.O. 7, March 1975).

The Board was technically abolished by executive order in 1978, which transferred to the Department of Commerce the responsibility to oversee economic planning, research, and distribution of funds pursuant to the federal Economic Development Act. Simultaneously, however, a new Board was reestablished within the Executive Department to act as a cabinet-level economic advisory group, and the members of the abolished board were continued as members of the reestablished board (E.O.73, July 1978).

No Records in State Archives

State Board of Elections

Responsibility for supervising the election process was mainly a local government responsibility until the creation of the State Board of Elections in 1974 (Ch. 604).

During the colonial period elections were conducted by voice vote, but the first state constitution mandated that "a full and fair experiment shall be made of voting by ballot." A 1778 law provided that the Governor and Lieutenant Governor be elected by ballot, while retaining the voice system for election of legislators and other officials. In 1787 (Ch. 15) the ballot system was instituted for all elections.

The 1778 (Ch. 16) election law also provided for local inspectors of elections who were to give notice of and conduct elections, transcribe voice votes, and examine ballots. Election results were tabulated by the county sheriff who forwarded them to the Secretary of State, except that ballots for the election of the Governor and

Lieutenant Governor were delivered by the sheriff to the Secretary of State and then examined by a joint committee of six senators and six assemblymen.

Several modifications in election procedure were made in 1799. Inspectors of elections continued to supervise elections and collect results at the town, city, or ward level, but results were then transmitted to the county clerk, who transcribed a county report that was submitted to a State Board of Canvassers, consisting of the Secretary of State, Comptroller, and Treasurer, to canvass the county tabulations and publish the results. Later the Attorney General and the Surveyor General were added to the Board.

Local election procedures changed several times during the ensuing decades. Statutes passed in 1909, 1922, and 1949, created a board of elections in New York City and in each of the fifty-seven counties outside the city. The city and county election boards were required to transmit certified copies of local canvassing board statements to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General. Meanwhile, the structure and responsibility of the State Board of Canvassers remained unchanged until 1926 (Ch. 437) when it was placed in the Department of State and membership was changed to the Attorney General, two Senators, and two Assemblymen. The Attorney General was responsible for enforcement of the election law.

The State Board of Elections, created in 1974, assumed responsibility for administrative and enforcement powers relating to the election process from the Attorney General. The Board consists of four commissioners appointed by the Governor: two recommended by the major political parties and two recommended by state legislative leaders. It administers the election law, supervises the election process, and promulgates and enforces a fair campaign code that serves as a code of ethics for campaign practices and financing. The State Board of Elections also issues rules and regulations for county election boards and develops programs to encourage increased citizen participation in elections. The State Board of Canvassers, consisting of the Attorney General, two Senators, and two Assemblymen, is placed administratively within the State Board of Elections. The State Board of Canvassers is responsible for canvassing certified copies of statements submitted by county boards of canvassers, and preparing statements on the results of elections, which are filed with the State Board of Elections (Ch. 233, L. 1976).

Records

State Board of Canvassers

Results of Canvasses of Statewide Elections. 1800-1964. 16 cf.

Original Ballots of the College of Electors. 1832-1860. 1 folder.

Office of Employee Relations

The Office of Employee Relations was established in 1969 (Ch. 491) to act as the Governor's agent in carrying out the state's labor relations responsibilities as an employer. These responsibilities are required by the Public Employees' Fair Employment Act and they include conducting collective negotiations with recognized employee organizations and executing the proper implementation and administration of agreements reached in such negotiations. The Office is headed by a director who is appointed by the Governor.

No Records in State Archives

State Energy Office

State energy policy dates from the creation of the Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy created in 1972 (Ch. 386) to develop and report on a comprehensive energy policy for the state. This commission was succeeded by a 1975 (Ch. 460) Legislative Commission on Energy Systems that studied and reported on existing power resources and the potential of alternative power systems.

In 1976 (Ch. 819) a State Energy Office was established within the Executive Department. The Office advises state government and the public on energy matters, promotes energy conservation, coordinates state energy programs with federal programs, and draws up the state energy efficiency construction code. It is also responsible for drafting and revising a state energy conservation plan and for making plans for fuel supplies.

No Records in State Archives

Division of Equalization and Assessment

The earliest predecessor of this Division, the State Board of Equalization, was created in 1859 (Ch. 312) to equalize county property value assessments on the basis of which a state property tax was levied. As a result of the 1925 state government reorganization, the Board was placed in the Department of Taxation and Finance where it was mainly concerned with coordinating and equalizing assessments for use in distributing state aid to municipalities and setting municipal tax limits after the state property tax was discontinued in 1928.

Assessment and equalization functions were transferred to a temporary state commission, called the State Board of Equalization and Assessment, in 1949 (Ch. 346). This Board, consisting of three gubernatorial appointees one of whom was a State Tax Commissioner, was directed to establish a program for revision of state equalization rates and recommend a plan for permanent assignment of the functions, powers, and duties assigned to it. In 1960 (Ch. 335) the State Board of Equalization and Assessment was reorganized and placed in the Executive Department Office for Local Government. The new Board, consisting of the Commissioner for Local Government and four gubernatorial appointees, assumed all functions and duties of the previous temporary commission. Policies and procedures established by the Board were carried out by an executive director who headed a division within the Office for Local Government. When this Office was abolished in 1975, the Division of Equalization and Assessment, headed by a Board of five gubernatorial appointees, was made a subdivision of the Executive Department (Ch. 606).

The Division carries out the policies and procedures of the Board of Equalization and Assessment, including establishing municipal equalization rates, assessing certain special properties, advising localities on real property tax problems, and approving local tax maps. The Division also establishes standards and provides training programs for municipal assessors and appraisers, furnishes advisory appraisals of complex properties, and establishes tax map standards.

See also: Department of Taxation and Finance.

No Records in State Archives

Office of General Services

This Office was established in 1960 (Ch. 459-465) to consolidate responsibility for all state administrative support services. A series of laws that created the Office transferred to it the functions of the Department of Public Works pertaining to the operation and maintenance of public buildings and grounds(including communications system,) the functions of the Division of the Budget pertaining to the retention and disposition of state records and the transfer and disposal of surplus state property, the functions of the Board of Commissioners of the Land Office (in the Department of State) pertaining to the sale, lease, or other disposition of state-owned lands not devoted to any specific purpose, and the responsibilities of the Division of Standards and Purchase regarding the purchasing and standardization of equipment and supplies. The Board of Commissioners of the Land Office and the Division of Standards and Purchase were abolished.

The Office, headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor, is responsible for the custody and sale of state-owned lands; provides and maintains office space for state agencies; allocates space for state operations; negotiates leases; and manages state-owned office space by providing utilities, maintenance, custodial, grounds, and security services. It acts as an in-house architectural staff for state agencies by providing service in planning, design, and construction of facilities. The Office is also responsible for management of state motor vehicle fleet operations, records management and storage, mail and messenger service, insurance service, and employee parking.

As the purchasing agent for all state agencies, the Office establishes standards and specifications, and maintains quality control. It provides additional services to state agencies, including communications, data processing, and disposal of surplus property.

No Records in State Archives

Division of Housing and Community Renewal

State policy in the area of urban housing dates from 1900 (Ch. 279) with the creation of a temporary Tenement House Commission to study urban housing conditions. The next year the Legislature acted on the Commission's recommendations by passing the Tenement House Law (Ch. 334), requiring local governments to enforce minimum safety and sanitation standards in apartment buildings.

Housing problems intensified following World War I and in 1920 the Legislature declared that inadequate housing posed a public emergency. The next year, a series of rent control and tax exemption laws were passed to protect renters and to encourage construction. In 1923 (Ch. 694), a Housing and Regional Planning Bureau was set up in the Department of Architecture to evaluate the effectiveness of these laws. As a result of the state government reorganization of 1925, the Housing Bureau was transferred to the Division of Architecture in the Department of Public Works. In the meantime, Bureau studies led in 1926 (Ch. 823) to passage of a public housing law creating the State Board of Housing within the Bureau. The Board, consisting of five members appointed by the Superintendent of Public Works, was charged with studying and preparing plans to meet the state's housing needs, assisting municipalities in the formulation of housing, zoning and planning legislation and regulation, and promoting private investment in low rent housing projects. In 1932 the Bureau and the Board were transferred to a newly organized Division of Housing in the Department of State.

A constitutional amendment in 1938, authorizing use of state funds for housing projects, represented a major change in state housing policy. Enabling legislation, approved in 1938 (Ch. 270) and 1939 (Ch. 809), transferred the Division of Housing to the Executive Department, replaced the Board of Housing with a Superintendent of Housing (changed to Commissioner in 1940), and set up procedures for granting state housing subsidies.

In 1961 (Ch. 398), when the Division was reorganized as the present Division of Housing and Community Renewal, its responsibilities were defined as follows: distributing loans and grants to municipalities for urban renewal projects; providing mortgage loans and advisory services to private housing corporations for the development of middle income housing; providing technical assistance to municipalities in adopting the state building construction code and the state housing code; and carrying out community surveys of housing and urban renewal needs.

In addition, its Office of Rent Administration, established in 1964 to take over the functions and powers of the Temporary State Housing Rent Commission, is responsible for the enforcement of emergency housing and rent control laws outside New York City and for reviewing the regulations of the New York City Department of Rent and Housing Maintenance. The predecessor Commission, created in 1950 (Ch. 250), had established and enforced maximum rent limits in selected urban areas.

Records

Limited Profit Housing Corporation Project Files. 1952-1974. 18 cf.

Executive Staff Subject Files. 1952-1974. 29 cf.

Administrative Protest Review Case Files. 1966-1974. 16 cf. R.

Division of Human Rights

The origin of this Division can be traced to the Civil Rights Law of 1909, which guaranteed "equal rights in places of public accommodation and amusement" for all people regardless of race, creed, or color. However, it was not until the passage of the "Law Against Discrimination" in 1945 (Ch. 292) that administrative machinery was created to enforce human rights laws. This law established the State Commission Against Discrimination, consisting of five members appointed by the Governor, which was mandated to adopt measures to eliminate and prevent discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed, or national origin. The Commission promulgated rules and regulations, investigated complaints, held hearings, and utilized the services of other agencies in enforcing the law.

During the next fifteen years various laws placed further restrictions on discriminatory employment practices, and in 1962 (Ch. 165) the Commission was reorganized as the present Division of Human Rights, headed by a single commissioner appointed by the Governor. A State Human Rights Appeal Board, which was originally named the Human Rights Review Board when it was established in 1968 (Ch. 958) considers appeals of the Division's orders. The Board consists of a chairperson and three members appointed by the Governor.

Today the Division is responsible for the elimination and prevention of discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, or criminal arrest and/or conviction record in the areas of employment, housing, credit, and public accommodations. In addition, the Division is responsible for the promotion of equal opportunities for all individuals in the economic and cultural life of the state.

No Records in State Archives

Division of Military and Naval Affairs

The Division of Military and Naval Affairs consists of the New York Army National Guard, the New York Air National Guard, the New York Naval Militia, the New York Guard and the State Reserve and Retired lists, as well as the State Civil Defense Commission.

The first and subsequent state constitutions designated the Governor as the Commander-in-Chief of the state's armed forces. In 1784, the Governor appointed an Adjutant General to supervise the Militia and all military establishments in the state. The status of the position was confirmed by the 1821 and 1846 constitutions which specified that an Adjutant General be appointed by the Governor. During the nineteenth century various staff officers—including Inspector General, Commissary General, Judge Advocate, Quartermaster, and Paymaster—were established by statute or by the constitution to assist the Adjutant General, and the organized Militia became known as the National Guard.

The 1894 constitution specified that a Military Secretary be appointed by the Governor and also included a provision allowing the Governor to continue the office of Adjutant General. From 1894 until 1926, the Military Secretary and the Adjutant General shared responsibility for supervising the State's defense. A consolidated military law, passed in 1909, provided that the Adjutant General assume the duties of all existing staff offices.

In 1926 (Ch. 546), a year after ratification of the constitutiinal reorganization of state government, a Division of Military and Naval Affairs, headed by an Adjutant General appointed by the Governor, was established within the Executive Department. In addition to assuming responsibility for the state's military and naval staff departments, the Division took over supervision of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Bath (which was renamed the State Camp for Veterans), the New York State Monuments Commission for the Battlefields of Gettysburg, Chattanooga and Antietam, the Bureau for the Relief of Sick and Disabled Veterans, and the New York State Bonus Commission. The Bath facility had been established under a board of trustees in 1863 to care for honorably discharged veterans. The Monuments Commission, consisting of three veterans appointed by the Adjutant General, had been set up in 1913 to erect memorials to New York's participation in the three Civil War battles. The Relief Bureau, established in 1923, administered State financial aid to disabled veterans. This Bureau was the successor to the New York Veterans Relief Commission, consisting of the Adjutant General, Comptroller, and Attorney General, set up a year earlier. The Bonus Commission, consisting of the Adjutant General, Comptroller, Attorney General and Treasurer, was established in 1924 following a 1923 constitutional amendment allowing the state to provide direct bonus payments to honorably discharged veterans of World War I.

When the Division of Veterans Affairs was set up in 1945 to provide services for returning World War II veterans, the Adjutant General was designated chairperson of its Veterans Affairs Commission, an advisory body.

In 1949 the office of Chief of Staff was created to head the Division of Military and Naval Affairs. The State Civil Defense Commission, originally created as a separate unit of the Executive Department in 1951 and transferred to the Department of Transportation in 1971, was made part of the Division in 1973. The Commission prepares civil defense plans and coordinates federal, state and local assistance in the event of a disaster.

The Division is responsible for the administration of the state's military forces and coordination of the state's response to disasters. The Army National Guard, the Air National Guard and the Naval Militia serve as reserve components to the United States Army, Air Force and Navy. These Guard and Militia units may be activated by the federal government, as well as by the Governor, in times of emergency. The New York Guard is a cadre unit, responsible to the Governor, providing a State reserve force if the Army National Guard is ordered into federal service.

Records

Adjutant General

Register of Outgoing Correspondence. 1809-1812. -.5 cf.

Register of Reports and Correspondence Received and Sent by the Adjutant General. 1819. -.5 cf.

Letterbook of Outgoing Correspondence. 1832-1850. -.5 cf.

Letterbooks of Correspondence to Governor. 1861. 1 cf.

Office Files of Adjutant General. 1823-1824. -.5 cf.

General and Special Orders/ 1861-1862. -.5 cf.

Incoming Telegrams. 1861-1864. .5 cf.

Military Register of Regimental Geographic Areas. 1846. -.5 cf.

Regimental Files, New York State Volunteer 2nd Regiment, Company B. 1856-1863. -.5 cf.

Regimental Files of the Independent Corps., Light Infantry. 1861-1865. .5 cf.

Regimental Files of the 51st Regiment, New York State Volunteers. 1861-1864. 1.5 cf.

Roster of Officers in the New York State Volunteers. 1861-1863. -.5 cf.

Regimental History Notes. 1861-1863. 3 cf.

Office Files Relating to National Guard Regiments. 1861-1917. 14 cf.

General Orders Books, 1st Brigade, 2nd Division. 1862. -.5 cf.

Enrollment Roster, Erie County. 1862. -.5 cf.

Regimental Files (Various Regiments). 1862-1865. -.5 cf.

128th Regiment's Staff Officers and Members. 1862. -.5 cf.

Regimental Files, 1st Artillery Regiment. 1863-1865. -.5 cf.

Regimental Files, 22nd Regiment. 1863-1865. .5 cf.

Certificates of Appointment of Enrolling Officers. 1864. -.5 cf.

Statistics of Enrollment. 1864. -.5 cf.

Scrapbook of Periodical Clippings. 1897-1908. 3 cf.

World War I Veterans' Bonus Cards.. 1914-1919. 97 microfilm reels.

Paymaster General

Claims, Applications and Awards for Service in the War of 1812. c. 1812-1817. 18 cf.

Register of Bounty Land Issued in Illinois for Service in War of 1812. 1818. .5 cf.

Register of Bounty Claims. 1861-1868. 4 cf.

Register of Bounty Claims from Buffalo. 1866. -.5 cf.

Index to Bounty Claims. 1862-1866. -.5 cf.

Index to Applications for Pension and Bounty. 1867. -.5 cf.

List of Outstanding Bounty Claims. 1863-1865. 5 cf.

Register of Bounties Paid. 1863-1865. -.5 cf.

42

Army Register of Claims for Pay. 1865-1866. -.5 cf.

Payroll Vouchers for Military Service. 1863-1865. 3 cf.

Letterbooks of Outgoing Correspondence from the Paymaster General. 1865. -.5 cf.

Inspector General

Regimental Inspection Returns. 1783-1814. .5 cf.

Militia Fines. 1859-1861. -.5 cf.

Report of Examination for Exemption from Military Duty in Steuben County. 1861-1865. -.5 cf.

Regimental Inspection Returns. 1783-1814. .5 cf.

Militia Fines. 1859-1861. -.5 cf.

Report of Examination for Exemption from Military Duty in Steuben County. 1861-1865. -.5 cf.

Letterbook of Outgoing Correspondence from Inspector General's Office. 1863-1867. -.5 cf.

Register of Applicants for Discharge and Transfer. 1865-1866. -.5 cf.

Commissary General

Report of Commissary General to Governor. 1853. -.5 cf.

Inventory and Inspection Reports of Ordnance Stores. 1862-1865. -.5 cf.

Register of Requests for Supplies and Transfers. 1863-1865. -.5 cf.

Applications for Commutation of Rations. 1867-1868. .5 cf.

Military Training Commission

Office Files of the New York State Military Training Commission. 1917-1921. 15 cf.

Office of Parks and Recreation

New York State's early involvement with parks and recreation was closely related to its conservation efforts. A Temporary State Park Commission, established in 1872 (Ch. 848) to study the feasibility of forming a public park in the "timbered regions" of the Adirondack Mountains, rejected a proposal to create a park for recreational purposes, but recommended preservation of the land and timber resources. No action was taken until 1884 when the legislature directed the Comptroller to establish a committee to formulate a plan for forest preservation. This committee's recommendations led in 1885 (Ch. 283) to the establishment of the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves administered by a Forest Commission. This Commission was abolished in 1895, and its functions transferred to the Fisheries, Game and Forest Commission. This in turn was superseded in 1900 by the Forest, Fish and Game Commission, which in 1911 became the Conservation Commission that existed until the constitutional reorganization of 1925. In addition to responsibility for the Forest Preserve lands (which were also known as the Adirondack and Catskill Parks), the Conservation Commission or its predecessors administered several parks and reservations assigned by law to its jurisdiction, beginning with the St. Lawrence reservation in 1896.

Other parks and reservations, as well as a number of historic sites and structures, were established by law between 1885 and 1925. Each was administered by independent or regional boards of commissioners or trustees. In 1924 (Ch. 189) a State Council of Parks was established as a central advisory agency for all parks, reservations, and places of historic and scenic interest that were not under the authority of the Conservation Commission. The Council, consisting of the conservation commissioner, state museum director, and the heads of ten park and reservation boards, developed plans for a uniform park policy and acted as a clearinghouse for information on park planning.

In 1926 (Ch. 619), as a result of the constitutional reorganization of state government, jurisdiction over all parks, reservations, and historic sites was centralized in the Conservation Department, Division of Parks. The Council of Parks was continued, but placed under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commissioner. In addition to its previous advisory and planning functions, the Council was empowered to recommend construction or improvement of state and county highways to facilitate public access to recreational areas.

In 1944 (Ch. 603), supervision of twenty-seven places of scientific and historic interest was transferred from the Conservation Department to the State Education Department. Administration of these sites was returned to the Conservation Department in 1966 (Ch. 816) with the creation within that agency of the New York State Historic Trust, a seven-member body composed of four gubernatorial appointees, plus the Commissioner of Education, Director of the Council on the Arts, and Chairperson of the Council of Parks. The Director of the Division of State Parks acted as executive secretary of the Trust. The Education Department continued to provide advisory services on the operation of the sites.

When the Conservation Department was reorganized as the Department of Environmental Conservation in 1970, its Division of State Parks was abolished. All duties and functions relating to parks (except the Adirondack and Catskill preserves), recreation areas, and historic sites were transferred to the newly created Office of Parks and Recreation. A Council of Parks and Recreation and an Historic Trust were reconstituted under administrative jurisdiction of the commissioner of the new office (Ch. 140, L. 1970). In 1972, a recodified parks and recreation law established centralized management of all parks for the first time, with eleven regional park commissions retaining an advisory role. The Council of Parks and Recreation was also continued as an advisory body, and the State Board for Historic Preservation succeeded the Historic Trust in an advisory capacity.

As of 1979, the Office of Parks and Recreation operated 147 parks, 34 historic sites, and 74 boat launching sites throughout New York.

See also: Department of Environmental Conservation and Adirondack Park Agency.

No Records in State Archives

Division of Parole

This Division traces its origin to an 1877 statute (Ch. 424) empowering the Superintendent of State Prisons to appoint an agent at each state prison to assist inmates whose terms were about to expire to find suitable homes and jobs. An 1889 law (Ch. 382) established a Board of Commissioners for Paroled Prisoners at each prison, composed of the agent, warden, chaplain, physician, and principal keeper. The Superintendent of State Prisons also served on each board. Inmates who had served their minimum sentence could apply to these boards for conditional release (parole).

In 1901 (Ch. 260) the separate parole boards were discontinued and the State Commission of Prisons, which had been created in 1895, was also designated to serve in a dual capacity as a Board of Commissioners for Paroled Prisoners. The office of agent for discharged convicts was abolished, but the Board's duties were expanded to include securing employment for and exercising supervision over parolees. In 1908 (Ch. 239) the duties of the Board of Commissioners for Paroled Prisoners were transferred to a newly created Board of Parole for State Prisons, which consisted of the Superintendent of Prisons and two gubernatorial appointees.

Following the 1925 state government reorganization (Ch. 606, L. 1926) the Board of Parole for State Prisons was continued and made head of the newly created Division of Parole within the Department of Correction. The Commissioner of Correction replaced the Superintendent of State Prisons on the Board.

A 1930 law (Ch. 824) transferred the Division of Parole to the Executive Department where its powers and duties remained the same. The Board of Parole for State Prisons was continued, with three appointees by the Governor as members. The Commissioner of Correction was no longer on the board.

When the Department of Correction was reorganized as the Department of Correctional Services in 1970, the Division of Parole became an administrative unit of the new Department. The restructured Division included a State Board of Parole, consisting of a maximum of twelve members appointed by the Governor. The Board was assigned the power to decide cases and conditions of parole, and to revoke parole.

The Division of Parole was again separated from the Department of Correctional Services in 1977 (Ch. 904), and established as an independent Executive Department agency. The State Board of Parole was continued with the same membership. The present duties of the Division and Board are as follows: determining when, and under what conditions inmates may be released on parole; revoking the parole of any person violating conditions of release; and setting the minimum period of imprisonment for an indeterminate sentence when the court has not done so.

See also: Department of Correctional Services.

No Records in State Archives

Division of State Police

In 1917 (Ch. 161) New York established a Department of State Police, headed by a superintendent appointed by the Governor, to provide law enforcement in the rural areas of the state. The law establishing the department contained a limitation, that remains today, prohibiting the use of state police "within the limits of any city to suppress rioting and disorder except by direction of the governor." The first contingent of troopers, chosen by the superintendent for two year enlistments, was organized into four troops stationed at White Plains, Albany, Oneida, and Batavia respectively.

Following the reorganization of state government in 1925, the State Police were made a division in the Executive Department (Ch. 546, L. 1926). In 1935 the Division received legislative authorization to operate a scientific laboratory and to organize a Bureau of Criminal Investigation as a separate detective unit to handle serious or complicated cases. Beginning in 1938, appointments to the force have been permanent rather than two-year enlistments.

The number of state police officers has increased to over 3,000, organized into ten troops located throughout the state. Since 1954 the state police have patrolled the New York State Thruway, and in 1961 a separate troop was organized for this detail. The most recent troop, organized on Long Island in 1979 took over jurisdiction of the Long Island State Parkway Police, resuming patrols of Long Island parks and parkways that the state police had exercised from 1928 to 1945.

The Division is responsible for preventing and detecting crime, apprehending criminals, and safeguarding the lives and property of people within the state; enforcing the Vehicle and Traffic Law and promoting highway safety; assisting municipal and county authorities through its bureau of criminal investigation and the state police scientific laboratory; and enforcing regulations governing the load weights of trucks.

Records

Non-Criminal Investigation Case Files. ca. 1940-1975. 100 cf. R.

Division of Probation

New York's first probation statute, enacted in 1901 (Ch. 372), provided for the appointment of probation officers by the justices of the various courts. The officers reported to the courts on the background of individuals who were about to be sentenced, and on the activities of persons who received suspended sentences.

In 1905, the Governor appointed a Temporary State Commission on the Probation System who were to examine and report on the operation of the probation system. Upon this commission's recommendation, a State Probation Commission was established in 1907 (Ch. 430) to supervise the work of all probation officers. The Commission included four gubernatorial appointees, the Commissioner of Education, and one appointee each from the State Board of Charities and State Board of Prisons.

Following the 1925 reorganization of state government (Ch. 606, L. 1926), the State Probation Commission was continued as the head of the Division of Probation within the Department of Correction. Commission membership was changed to include the Commissioner of Correction, four members appointed by him, the Director of the Division of Probation, and one member appointed by the Commission of Correction. After 1936 the Governor assumed responsibility from the Commissioner of Correction for appointing four of the Commission members.

In 1970 (Ch. 479) the division was removed from the Department of Correction and made a division of the Executive Department. A Division Director, appointed by the Governor, became head of the agency and also served, along with four other gubernatorial appointees, on the State Probation Commission. In 1971 the membership of the Commission was changed to consist of nine members: three community members appointed by the Governor, two local probation administrators or officers appointed by the Governor, and the directors of court administration of each of the four state judicial departments. A year later, the division director was added as a member and the state administrative judge of the unified court system replaced the four judicial department directors.

Presently, the division provides assistance and general supervision over local probation departments to assure effective probation services based on statewide standards and procedures. It regulates procedures used by local departments, administers a program of state aid for local probation services, furnishes training programs, and provides direct probation services on a temporary basis when needed.

See also: Department of Correctional Services.

No Records in State Archives

State Racing and Wagering Board

This board was created in 1973 (Ch. 346) to consolidate responsibility for the licensing and regulation of racing and wagering activities which had formerly been exercised by five separate commissions.

A State Racing Commission, consisting of three gubernatorial appointees, was created in 1926 (Ch. 440) to issue or deny annual licenses to corporations conducting horse races and steeplechases. In 1940 (Ch. 254) this Commission was transferred to the Department of State where it was made chief executive body of a division. The commission was granted additional powers to appoint stewards for race meetings and to issue licenses for and regulate pari-mutuel betting. In the same year a State Harness Racing Commission, consisting of three gubernatorial appointees was placed in charge of a new division in the Department of State and given regulatory responsibilities for harness racing similar to those of the State Racing Commission for other racing.

Two laws enacted in 1970 further expanded the Department of State's responsibility for regulating racing and wagering. A State Quarter Horse Racing Commission was granted jurisdiction over pari-mutuel quarter horse racing activities (Ch. 1023), and a State Off-track Pari-mutuel Betting Commission governed the operation of an off-track betting system (Ch. 143).

In 1973 these four commissions, along with the State Lottery Commission from the Department of Taxation and Finance, were consolidated under the newly created State Racing and Wagering Board, with the original commissions remaining as advisory bodies to the board in their respective areas of jurisdiction. In 1976 (Ch. 960) the Board's authority over wagering was expanded to include all bingo games or other games of chance held by approved nonprofit corporations, and the State Bingo Control Commission, formerly in the Department of State, was transferred to the Board. However, that same year responsibility for the state lottery was removed from the Board and reassigned to the Division of the Lottery in the Department of Taxation and Finance.

The Racing and Wagering Board consists of three members appointed by the Governor. One of the members is designated board chairperson and chief executive officer of the agency by the Governor.

See also: Division of the Lottery.

No Records in State Archives

Board of Social Welfare

The Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities, established in 1867 (Ch. 951) to visit and inspect public almshouses and all charitable and custodial institutions receiving state aid, was the first state supervisory body to coordinate public welfare programs. Renamed the State Board of Charities in 1873 (Ch. 571) and made a constitutional body by an 1894 amendment, the Board eventually became the administrative head of the Department of Charities created as a result of the governmental reorganization of 1925.

In 1929 the Board was renamed the Board of Social Welfare, and it continued as administrative head of the renamed Department of Social Welfare. A 1936 law gave the Board the power to name a Commissioner of Public Welfare to execute their policy, and a constitutional amendment approved two years later expanded the Board's power to promulgate rules and regulations concerning the health, safety and treatment of persons receiving aid through any public or private charitable institution in the state. Although the Department of Social Welfare was renamed the Department of Social Services in 1967, the Board's name went unchanged because it was set forth in the state constitution.

However, a 1971 (Ch. 110) law removed the Board from the Department and established it as a separate agency within the Executive Department. The power to name a commissioner of social services was removed from the Board and assigned to the Governor, and the authority of the Board to regulate the administration of local public assistance was transferred to the Department. The Board's direct supervision of child and adult care institutions was transferred to other state agencies. The Board continued to exercise its traditional, constitutional functions relating to the visitation, inspection, and setting of standards for institutions and agencies caring for de pendent, neglected or delinquent children, the aged, indigent, disabled and disadvantaged.

A 1977 law further clarified and expanded the Board's responsibility to act as an independent overseer, to review, report and make recommendations concerning implementation of state policies and programs for child and adult care and to monitor the quality of administration of these programs by responsible state and local agencies. The Board's responsibility for regulation of charitable fund raising (begun under a 1956 law) was transferred to the Department of State.

At present the Board, consisting of fifteen members appointed by the Governor, and with a staff headed by an executive director, visits and inspects charitable institutions, conducts investigations and holds hearings, conducts special research and analyses of state policies and programs affecting child and adult care, reviews and comments on proposed legislation and regulations, and encourages new or improved social welfare programs.

See also: Department of Social Services and Department of Mental Hygiene.

Records

State Board of Charities

Correspondence. 1867-1901. 12 cf.

Census of Inmates in Almshouses. 1873-1921. 77 cf. R.

Census of Non-institutionalized Insane and Idiots. 1871-1872. 5 vols

Register of Children Removed From Poor Houses. 1874. 1 vol.

List of Physicians. 1871. 1 vol.

Reports of Unincorporated Hospitals. 1869. 1 vol.

Reports of Hospitals. 1873-1896. 24 vols.

Hospital Accommodations of County Poor Houses. 1881. 1 vol.

Annual Reports of Incorporated Charities. 1871-1872. 2 vols.

List of Officers of Incorporated Charities. 1870. 1 vol.

Reports of Orphan Asylums. 1873-1896. 24 vols.

Reports of Dispensaries. 1869. 25 vols.

Reports on Dependents Submitted by Institutions to the Board. 1873-1892. 5 cf.

Register of Insane in County Poor Houses. 1871. 1 vol.

Register of Tramps Applying for Relief to Overseer of the Poor. 1875-1876. 4 vols.

Record of Epileptics in Institutions for the Idiotic. 1895. 1 vol.

Epileptics on Family Care Receiving Poor Relief. 1895. 6 vols.

Photographs and Floor Plans of Charitable Institutions. c. 1892-1900. 5 vols.

Photographs of Charitable Facilities in New York and Other States. c. 1892-1900. 2 cf.

Photographs of the State Training School for Boys. c. 1900. 1 cf.

Map of the Property of the Reformatory for Women at Bedford. 1895. 1 item.

Sample Forms Used by State Board of Charities. c. 1900. 1 vol.

Administration of the Rensselaer County Almshouse. 1905. 2 vols.

Correspondence and Bulletins of the International Sunshine Society. c. 1913-1915. .5 cf.

Testimony Before the Commission to Examine into the Management and Affairs of the State Board of Charities. c. 1915. 1 folder.

Division of Veterans' Affairs

This Division was created in 1945 (Ch. 763) to serve veterans and members of the armed forces who reside in New York. The Division is headed by a director, who must be a veteran, appointed by the Governor. A Veterans' Affairs Commission, consisting of the Chief of Staff of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs, Director of the Budget, President of the Civil Service Commission, Industrial Commissioner, Commissioners of Agriculture and Markets, Commerce, Education, Health, and Social Services, and three veterans appointed by the Governor for three-year terms, assists the Division director in formulating policies and coordinating the operations of state agencies relating to veterans' affairs.

The Division provides assistance to veterans, members of the armed forces, and their families in matters pertaining to the following: educational training; health, medical and rehabilitation services; federal, state and local laws and regulations affording special rights and privileges; employment opportunties; and federal Veterans' Administration claims. The Division also administers state-mandated veterans' bonus and veterans' blind annuity assistance programs and recommends legislation for the benefit of veterans and their families.

The law creating the state Division of Veterans' Affairs also required each county and permitted all cities to establish veterans' affairs agencies. These local agencies have responsibilities paralleling those of the state Division and are under its general supervision.

No Records in State Archives

Division for Youth

In 1944 Governor Thomas E. Dewey appointed an interdepartmental committee to study the problem of juvenile delinquency. Upon the recommendation of this committee, the State Youth Commission, comprised of a chairman appointed by the Governor and the commissioners of the Departments of Correction, Education, Health, Mental Hygiene, Social Welfare, the Industrial Commissioner and the chairperson of the Board of Parole, was established as a temporary agency in 1945 (Ch. 556). The Commission, which was extended until 1956, studied and made recommendations on the problems of youth guidance, prevention of juvenile delinquency, and treatment of youthful offenders, and provided local municipalities with financial and technical aid for delinquency prevention projects.

In 1955, a year before the temporary agency was scheduled to terminate, the Temporary State Commission on Youth and Delinquency—a bi-partisan group of legislators, public officials, and laymen—was established to review public policy in this area. As a result of this Commission's analysis, the State Youth Commission was reestablished as a continuing Executive Department agency in 1956. Commission membership was changed to nine persons appointed by the Governor for five-year terms.

Three years later, Governor Rockefeller appointed a Task Force on Youth and Juvenile Delinquency to again study state youth policy. Based on legislation drafted by this task force, the Division for Youth was created in 1960 (Ch. 881) to supersede the Youth Commission. This Division assumed all the functions of the former commission and was also authorized to establish and operate centers for the rehabilitation of delinquent adolescents. By a legislative enactment of 1971, youth-care facilities operated by the Department of Social Services were transferred to the Division, which currently operates over sixty youth-care facilities throughout the state, in addition to providing guidance, technical assistance, and financial aid to local programs.

The Division is headed by a director appointed by the Governor. A Council on Youth, consisting of eight gubernatorial appointees and the Division director, is charged with providing advice on policy and program direction.

Records

State Agricultural and Industrial School at Industry (Western House of Refuge)

Minutes of Meetings of the Board of Managers. 1849-1912. 1 cf.

Minutes of the Acting Committee and the Executive Committee of the Board of Managers. 1849-1888. 1 cf.

Minutes of the Visiting Committee. 1849-1869. .5 cf.

Superintendent's Daily Journals. 1849-1881, 1883, 1889. 1 cf.

Superintendent's Correspondence. 1870-1912. 6 cf.

Superintendent's Orders to Staff for Operation of the Institution. 1891-1900. .5 cf.

Minutes of the Board of Classification. 1893-1909. .5 cf.

Records of Admission, Attendance and Discharge. 1896-1911. 1 cf. and 15 vols.

Registers of School Attendance and Student Progress. 1873-1893. 5 vols.

Case Files of Male Inmates. 1849-1911. 38 vols. R.

Supplementary Case Files of Male Inmates. 1849-1911. 37 cf. R.

Abstracts of Male Inmate Case Files. 1859-1860. .5 cf. R.

Case Files of Female Inmates. 1876-1904. 5 vols. R.

Supplementary Case Files of Female Inmates. 1876-1904. 4 cf. R.

Abstracts of Female Inmate Case Files. 1886-1898. .5 cf. R.

Chaplain's Files of Catholic Female Inmates. 1893-1904. -.5 cf. R.

Indentures. 1850-1860. .5 cf.

Parole Officer's Register of Inmates Paroled. 1887-1889. -.5 cf. R.

Parole Officer's Case Histories on Paroled Inmates. 1887-1898. .5 cf. R.

Parole Officer's Files of Inmates During Parole. 1889-1908. 1 cf. R.

Parole Officer's Correspondence. 1898-1910. .5 cf.

Parole Officer's Office Files. 1874-1896. .5 cf.

Daily Journals of the Matron of the Female Department. 1887-1896. .5 cf.

Disciplinary Department's Register of Merit Badges. 1889-1897. .5 cf.

Register of Infractions. 1876-1890. .5 cf.

Roster of Boys. 1873. .5 cf.

Lists of Boys and Girls Returned to the Institution. 1898-1904. -.5 cf.

Register of Religious Assignments. 1899-1904. -.5 cf.

Questionnaire Completed by Inmates. 1894. .5 cf.

Files Relating to the Student Fair. 1911-1937. .5 cf.

Photographs. 1904-1930. 1 cf.

Business Office Files. 1884, 1890-1893. .5 cf.

Employee Time Reports. 1895-1905. 1 vol.

Department of Agriculture and Markets

This department evolved from a series of state agencies beginning with the establishment of the Dairy Commission in 1884 (Ch. 202). The Commission, headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor, was empowered to inspect dairy production and sales facilities.

An 1893 (Ch. 338) law abolished the Dairy Commission and merged its functions with a new Department of Agriculture headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor. The law also transferred the State Meteorology Bureau and Weather Service to the Department. The new Department was made responsible for preventing and eradicating specified diseases, promoting agricultural production, managing state agricultural experiment stations, and reporting on the disbursement of state funds granted to the state and county agricultural societies. In 1913 (Ch. 345) the Commissioner of Agriculture was granted the power to issue subpoenas and hold hearings on violations.

In 1914 (Ch. 245) a separate Department of Foods and Markets was created. Headed by a Commissioner chosen by the Governor, this Department investigated food production and marketing costs; assisted in the creation of marketing cooperatives; regulated grading, handling, storing, and selling of food stuffs; regulated auction markets; published bulletins on daily prices and production and marketing methods; initiated legal proceedings to prevent price fixing; and monitored facilities for transporting produce within the state.

A major reorganization occurred in 1917 (Ch. 802), when a Department of Farms and Markets was established, consolidating the Departments of Agriculture and Foods and Markets, the office of the State Superintendent of Weights and Measures (created in 1851), and certain responsibilities of the Department of Health relating to food. The new Department was headed by a Council of Farms and Markets, the original members of which were appointed by the Governor. Upon expiration of their terms, new council members were elected by the Legislature. The Department consisted of a Division of Agriculture and a Division of Foods and Markets, each headed by a commissioner appointed by the Council. In addition to the powers and functions of the previously mentioned agencies, the Department was responsible for ensuring a sufficient supply of milk for urban centers; regulating the conduct of agricultural exchanges and boards of trade; and mediating controversies between producers and distributors.

In 1926 (Ch. 646) the current Department of Agriculture and Markets was established as part of the reorganized state government. It assumed all the functions and powers of the Department of Farms and Markets, which was abolished. A Council of Agriculture and Markets became the executive body with the power to appoint a chief administrative officer known as the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets. The State Fair Commission, created in 1909, was also transferred to the new department. In 1935 (Ch. 16) an amendment to the agricultural law provided for the appointment of the commissioner by the Governor, and abolished the Council of Agriculture and Markets.

Currently the department administers the Agricultural and Markets Law; regulates the production, processing, and distribution of agricultural products; encourages the growth of the state's agricultural industry; and promotes increased sales of agricultural products produced within New York State.

Records

Division of Marketing

Directors Subject and Project Files. 1932-1974. 13 cf.

Buffalo Regional Produce Market Reports. 1940-1975. 4.5. cf.

Central New York (Syracuse) Regional Produce Market Reports. 1966-1973. 1 cf.

List of Livestock Prices Paid at Vernon. 1971. .5 cf.

Central New York Snap Bean Volume and Price Reports. 1962-1967. .5 cf.

Utica Produce Market Reports. 1963-1971. 1 cf.

Office of Migrant Child Care

Administrative Files. 1973-1974. 3 cf.

Child Care Claims. 1966-1969. .5 cf.

Applications for Migrant Labor Registration Certificates. 1962-1975..5 cf.

Department of Audit and Control

This department traces its origin to 1625 when New Netherland authorities appointed a schout-fiscal to examine the accounts at New Amsterdam. In 1658, a Board of Audit consisting of the Director General, Receiver General, and a Council member, assumed auditing responsibilities. After the English took control in 1664, the auditing function was carried out by an Auditor General appointed by royal authorities.

However, the colonial Assembly, established in 1683, gradually asserted greater control over fiscal matters. In 1700 it secured the Governor's approval for a law permitting the Assembly to jointly appoint, with the Governor's Council, commissioners to examine accounts. During the ensuing two decades, the Assembly assumed increased responsibility for voting funds for salaries, monitoring payments and auditing accounts. In 1739 the Assembly asserted the power to vote annual rather than long-term appropriations. The responsibility for fiscal matters continued to be divided between royal officials and the elected Assembly until the Revolution.

During the early days of the Revolution, the Provincial Congress chose auditors from among its own members, and in mid-1776 appointed an Auditor General. The first state constitution of 1777 created an office of State Treasurer to collect and disburse revenues as authorized by the Legislature, but did not mention an auditor. However, an Auditor General was appointed under a constitutional clause providing for the appointment of "other officers." A 1782 law (Ch. 21) provided for continuation of the office of Auditor with responsibility to "settle and adjust the public accounts" of the state.

In 1797 (Ch. 21) the office of Comptroller was established and assumed all of the functions of the Auditor. The Comptroller also took over certain powers of the Treasurer, including drawing up warrants of the state, investing the state's funds, and borrowing money on the credit of the state. The Comptroller was appointed by the Council of Appointment until the 1821 constitution provided for the election of the Comptroller by the Legislature for a three-year term. Under the 1846 and 1894 constitutions, the official was chosen for a two-year term at a general election. The term of office was extended to four years by a 1937 constitutional amendment.

The responsibilities of the Comptroller have grown concomitantly with the expansion of state government. The Comptroller was designated a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Land Office in 1801, and directed to sell lands for payment of delinquent state taxes. When construction of the canal system began in 1817, the Comptroller was appointed to the Board of Commissioners of the Canal Fund, and subsequently to the Canal Board. The Comptroller remained a member of the Land Board until it was reorganized in 1926, and of the Canal Boards until they were abolished in 1926.

The Comptroller was authorized to examine the financial affairs of banks beginning in 1843 until the creation of the Banking Department in 1851. From 1849 until the creation of the Insurance Department a decade later, the Comptroller regulated the organization and operation of insurance companies. Beginning in 1865 the officers of all state-supported hospitals and charitable institutions were required to report on their financial condition to the Comptroller, and in 1873 the Comptroller was empowered to examine the financial affairs of prisons and various other state institutions. In 1880 the Comptroller was authorized to initiate a system of collecting taxes on corporations. The duties of the former office of Canal Auditor were assumed by the Comptroller in 1883.

Beginning in 1905, municipal divisions of the state were required to adopt uniform fiscal reporting systems and to file annual reports that were subject to examination by the Comptroller's office. A statute passed six years later required the Comptroller to report annually to the Legislature on the extent and character of tax collection and indebtedness of municipalities. A 1910 law required each state agency to annually submit a proposed expenditure plan to the Comptroller who then forwarded recommendations to the Assembly Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committees. This was the forerunner of New York's executive budget process. In 1913 the auditing powers of the Comptroller were strengthened by an act requiring agencies to adopt a uniform system of accounts, uniform fiscal reporting, verification of purchases and services, and the Comptroller's prior approval of all contracts over one thousand dollars. A state employees retirement system was established in 1920 and the Comptroller administered this program.

The constitutional amendment of 1925 that reorganized state government placed the elected Comptroller at the head of the Department of Audit and Control, and defined the duties and powers of the office. According to the constitution, the Comptroller is required to audit all vouchers before payment, to audit the accrual and collection of all revenue and receipts, and to prescribe such methods of accounting as are necessary for the performance of the foregoing duties. In addition to constitutionally defined functions, legislation creating the Department, approved in 1926 (Ch. 614) transferred responsibility for the canal debt sinking fund from the Commissioners of the Canal Fund to the Comptroller. The Comptroller's former responsibility for licensing private detectives, auctioneers, steamship ticket agents, and theatre ticket brokers was transferred to the Department of State. The new Department of Taxation and Finance, which absorbed the duties of the former State Treasurer, was given responsibility for administering revenue-collecting functions that had previously been carried out by the Comptroller, including functions under the judiciary, tax, military, or any other law relative to the computation, apportionment, levy, and collection of direct state taxes; duties of the comptroller concerning land taxes and land sales for payment of delinquent taxes; and custody of state employee retirement funds. A 1938 constitutional revision strengthened the Comptroller's power to audit all state vouchers prior to payment by specifying that payments would be void unless the order or expenditure had been approved by the Comptroller.

The Comptroller, as chief fiscal officer of the state, oversees the collection of all state revenues; audits all claims against the state; prescribes accounting methods and audits the records and accounts of all state agencies; invests state funds and issues bonds and notes; supervises the fiscal affairs of local governments; investigates administrative deficiencies in the welfare system and suggests possible remedies; administers the state retirement systems and the state social security agency; superintends the fiscal affairs of The City University of New York, pursuant to a contract with that institution; and exercises stewardship responsibilities under the provisions of the abandoned property law. The Office of Welfare Inspector General, created in 1971 and transferred to the Department in 1975, investigates complaints about frauds or violations in the social services system.

Records

Correspondence

Correspondence. 1768-1852. 1912-1932. 1.5 cf.

Outgoing Correspondence. 1807-1909. 32 cf.

Incoming Correspondence relating to Appointive Positions. ca. 1815-1845. -.5 cf.

Correspondence from W.L. Marcy to State Comptroller regarding the City Bank of Buffalo's Outstanding Loans. 1840. -.5 cf.

Log of Incoming Correspondence to the Comptroller. 1853. -.5 cf.

Incoming Correspondence to the Comptroller. 1853. -.5 cf.

Letters of Clemency Recommendations to the Governor. 1864-1899. -.5 cf.

Correspondence from the Chief Tax Clerk to the Comptroller. 1878-1900. .5 cf.

Correspondence relating to Senate and Assembly bills. ca. 1883-1884. -.5 cf.

Outgoing Correspondence regarding Prisons, the Onondaga Salt Springs, and the U.S. Deposit Fund. 1890-1903. 1.5 cf.

Outgoing Correspondence regarding Taxes on State Lands. 1891-1910. 7 cf.

Correspondence from Clerks of Boards of Supervisors relating to Assessments. 1893-1898. .5 cf.

Outgoing Correspondence regarding Legislative accounts. 1895-1903. -.5 cf.

Outgoing Correspondence from the Deputy Comptroller. 1897-1900. -.5 cf.

Copies of Telegrams sent by the Comptroller's Office. 1872-1885. -.5 cf.

Minutes

Minutes of Meetings and Proceedings of the Commissioners for Building a State Prison in the First and Second Senate District. 1825-1829. 1 vol.

Transcript of Hearings before Assembly Committee on Privileges and Elections. 1903. .5 cf.

Minutes of a hearing relating to an Investigation of the Public Service Commission. 1911. -.5 cf.

Minutes of the New York State Athletic Commission. 1911-1917. -.5 cf.

Minutes of meetings of the Board of Commissioners of the Mohansic Lake Reservation. 1919-1920. -.5 cf.

Reports

Comptroller's Committee Meeting. 1948-1949. -.5 cf.

Comptroller's Reports to Legislature. 1749-1843. .5 cf.

Reports of County Treasurers & Assessors to the Comptroller. 1785-1830. .5 cf.

Reports from School District Trustees to the Commissioner of Common Schools. 1844-1845. -.5 cf.

Reports to Comptroller from Banks and Insurance Companies. 1868. 1 bundle.

Reports from Inspector of Gas Meters. 1883-1889. 1 bundle.

Comptroller's opinions on bills introduced into the Senate and Assembly. 1897-1909. -.5 cf.

Reports by County Clerks relating to Highway Money System. 1902, 1905. -.5 cf.

Municipal Audit Examination Reports. ca. 1910-1945. 57 cf.

Reports by County Boards of Supervisors relating to Highway Money System. 1911-1913. -.5 cf.

Financial Report of the Insurance Department. 1915-1917. .5 cf.

Manuals of a "Uniform System of Accounts for Villages". 1953. 1 item.

Annual Financial Reports of Public Authorities. 1958-1960; 1969-1973. 2 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of Consolidated Health Districts. 1960-1961. .5 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of New York State Fire Districts. 1969-1973. .5 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of Urban Renewal Agencies. 1969-1973. 1 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. 1969-1973. 1 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of Towns. 1970-1971. 15 cf.

Schedule of Real Property Tax Levies for Counties. 1972-1974. 6 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of Villages. 1973-1974. 12 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of Cities. 1973-1974. 4 cf.

Annual Financial Reports of Counties. 1973-1974.. 4 cf.

Records Relating to the State Treasurer

District Tax Assessment Rolls Submitted to State Treasurer. c. 1786-1800. 1 cf.

Accounts and entry documentation relating to new Currency. 1786-1798. -.5 cf.

Treasurer's receipts for interest payments on loans to the State. 1788. -.5 cf.

Treasurer's Certificates of Money paid into the Treasury. 1788-1806. 1 cf.

Receipts of the State Treasurer. 1790-1830. .5 cf.

State Treasurer's Account Ledger. 1812-1816. 1 vol.

Certificates to State Treasurer for Deputy Comptroller to sign Warrants and Audit Accounts in Comptroller's Absence. 1902-1910. -.5 cf.

Register of Treasurer's Receipts. 1914-1916. 1 vol.

Receipts and Disbursements

Accounts of Loan Office Certificates. 1778-1779. -.5 cf.

Comptroller's Ledgers Indicating Sources of State Revenues and Expenditures. 1780-1890. 4 vols.

Audited Accounts of Payments made by Overseers of the Poor for Support of Children Born to Slaves. 1799-1820. .5 cf.

Daybooks containing payments of state funds. 1801-1916. 106 vols.

Comptroller's Accounts of Money received from County Loan Commissioners. ca. 1802-1851. -.5 cf.

Comptroller's Journals of Outgoing Payments. 1803-1843. 2 vols.

Ledger of Deposits and Withdrawals on Accounts in Various Banks. 1806-1820. -.5 cf.

Accounts of State Lotteries. 1817. -.5 cf.

Accounts of Non-Current Bank Notes. 1817-1822. -5 cf.

Account Book of County Agricultural Societies. 1841-1845. 1 vol.

Bank Deposit Statements from Railroad Companies. 1845-1848. -.5 cf.

Warrant books. 1890-1894. 3 vols.

Accounts of Court and Trust Funds. 1892-1901. .5 cf.

Register of Individual and Depository Bonds. 1901-1917. -.5 cf.

Accounting of Municipal Securities held in State Funds. 1906-1909. -.5 cf.

List of Court Cases Relating to Trust Funds. 1907-1908. -.5 cf.

Applications and Correspondence relating to Tax Stamps to be affixed to Cancelled Bonds and other Certificates of Indebtedness. 1911-1915. .5 cf.

United States Loan Office Certificates. 1768-1852. -.5 cf.

Entry Documentation submitted by the Collector for the Port of New York. 1723-1838. -.5 cf.

Entry Documentation relating to Auction Sales of Estates. 1771-1774. -.5 cf.

Index to Subscribers for Purchase of Forage: Account of Hay, Pasture and Grain furnished the Continental Army. 1780-1782. 1 vol.

Entry Documentation submitted by the Commissioner of Navigation to the Comptroller. 1794-1828. 1 cf.

Entry Documentation for Funds Transferred to the State as a Result of Court Orders. ca. 1875-1915. -.5 cf.

Correspondence relating to Liquor Licenses for Steamboats and Railroad Cars. 1895. .5 cf.

Entry Documentation Relating to Cutting Brush on State Property. 1909-1920. .5 cf.

Receipts and Disbursements, Government Officials and Employees

Bonds of State and Local Officials. 1768-1873. -.5 cf.

Warrants for Payments to Government Officials and Legislators. 1799-1836. 2.5 cf.

Accounts of Salaries of Assessors for Towns, Counties and Corporations. 1799-1801. .5 cf.

Auburn Prison Payroll. 1818-1819. 1 vol.

Account Book of Salary Payments to Government Officials. 1829-1837. 1 col.

Payroll Account Book for State Capitol Employees. 1834-1843. 1 vol.

Payroll of Mechanics, Laborers, and Carpenters Employed in Building the State Hall. 1839-1841. 1 vol.

Payroll List of Supreme Court Clerks (New York County). 1839-1840. 1 vol.

Account Book Pertaining to Cleaning the State Capitol. 1875. 1 vol.

Oaths of Office. ca. 1850-1890. -.5 cf.

Correspondence of State Officials Concerning Employees. 1888-1890. -.5 cf.

State Agency Employee Salary Roster. ca. 1909-1910. .5 cf.

Personal Service History Records of State Employees. ca. 1895-1926. .5 cf.

Certificates of Appointment as Notary Public. ca. 1866-1877. -.5 cf.

Applications for the Office of Notary Public. ca. 1910-1912. 10 cf.

Monthly Reports of County Clerks relating to the Certification of Notaries Public. ca. 1914-1915. 1 cf.

Receipts and Disbursements, Stocks and Bonds

New York State Stock Certificate Issued by the Comptroller. 1815-1878. .5 cf.

Record of Payment of Interest Due to Holders of State Issued Stock. 1815-1831. 6 vols.

Transfer Book Pertaining to State Issued Stock. 1818-1838. 3 vols.

Book pertaining to Stock Receipts for Various Loan Issues. 1819-1846. 1 vol.

Report on the Petition of William C. Young in relation to the Boston Railroad Charge. 1830. -.5 cf.

List of Interest due to Holders of New York Stock issued for Construction of Hudson and Berkshire Railroad Company. c. 1841-1865. -.5 cf.

Records pertaining to the New York and Erie Railroad Company. 1840-1850. -.5 cf.

Account Book of State Stock Transactions. 1842-1848. 1 vol.

List of Subscribers for Stock of the Hudson River Railroad Company. 1847. -.5 cf.

List of Interest Due on State Stock. 1855-1871. .5 cf.

Corporation Records

Financial Reports of Corporations. 1825-1890. 1 cf.

List of Companies Chartered, by Category. 1828. 1 vol.

List of Incorporated Companies, by County. 1828. 1 vol.

Abstracts of Corporation Reports. 1834-1841. -.5 cf.
East Boston Timber Company Records. 1835-1840. 11 vols.

Business Records of Samuel Gardner. ca. 1830s. -.5 cf.

Business Records of Julius Gerber. ca. 1830s. -.5 cf.

Business Records of Oliver Phelps. ca. 1780-1840. -.5 cf.

Land and Land Taxation Records

Certificate of Exemption from Quit Rent. 1786-1787. -.5 cf

Certificates of Remission from Quit Rent. 1786-1790. .5 cf.

List of Lands Advertised to be Sold for Non-payment of Quit Rents. 1815. -.5 cf.

List of Quit Rents. 1820. .5 cf.

Comptroller's Correspondence relative to Amount Due for Property Taxes. 1790-1883. 63 cf.

Lands Sold by the Survivor General. 1794-1812 and 1835-1881. 5 cf.

Account Books for Bonds and Mortgages for Sale of State Lands. 1797-1910. 41 vols.

List of Bonds and Mortgages on State Lands. ca. 1811-1817. -.5 cf.

Certificates of Conveyance of Land Sold at Public Auction. 1812-1826. 1 cf.

Accounts of Tax Assessments for Land Sales. 1815-1845. 8 vols.

List of Buyers of State Lands. ca. 1818-1834. -.5 cf.

Deeds to Lands Sold for Non-payment of Taxes. ca. 1833-1894. .5 cf.

Treasurer's Receipts for Payments of Land Purchased. 1853-1854. .5 cf.

Proposals and Awards made for State Loans. 1859-1862, 1875. .5 cf.

Tax Sale Certificates from Tax Sale of 1859. 1859. -.5 cf.

Sale of College Land Script by the Comptroller. 1864-1869. 1 vol.

Entry Documentation relating to College Land Script Fund. 1864-1870. .5 cf.

Title Search of Land Records pertaining to Township 41 of Totten and Crossfield's Patent. 1869-1897. 1 vol.

Legal Documentation relating to Land Sales and Transfers. ca. 1870-1910. 1.5 cf.

Notices of Local Assessments of State Property for Improvements. ca. 1880-1906. .5 cf.

Applications for Purchase of State Lands. ca. 1880-1900. -.5 cf.

Town Assessors' Notices to the Comptroller of Assessed Value of Forest Lands. 1883. -.5 cf.

Field Notes on the Survey of Brant Lake Tract. 1884. -.5 cf.

Copies of Deeds Conveying Lands to the State. 1889-1923. 1 vol.

Applications to Cancel and Redeem Lands from Tax Sales. ca. 1890-1917. .5 cf.

Notices from Forest Commission to Commissioners of the Land Office Approving Sale of State Lands. 1894. -.5 cf.

Proceedings on Applications to Redeem Land from Tax Sale. ca. 1895-1918. -.5 cf.

Legal Documentation relating to Acquisition of Lands by Counties for Highways. 1902-1908. -.5 cf.

Newspaper Clippings Publicizing Sale of Land for Taxes. ca. 1905. -.5 cf.

Appraisals of Property Offered for Sale to the State. ca. 1917-1923. .5 cf.

List of Assignments and Satisfactions of Mortgages. ca. 1918-1928. -.5 cf.

Statements of Valuations and Taxes on State Lands. 1923. -.5 cf.

Lists of Taxes on State Lands in Allegany State Park. 1926. -.5 cf.

Case Files relating to Applications to Redeem Land from 1920 Tax Sale. 1920-1923. -.5 cf.

Register of Land Grants from Gerrit Smith to Colored and Poor White Slaves from the South. n.d. -.5 cf.

United States Deposit Fund Records

Minutes of Meetings of the U.S. Deposit Fund Commissioners. 1837-1890. 35 vols.

Annual Reports of the Commissioners of the U.S. Deposit Fund. 1838-1899. 26 cf.

U.S. Deposit Fund Ledgers. 1837-1911. 16 vols.

County Loan Commissioners' Annual Report. 1837-1838. 1 vol.

Comptroller's Account Book for County Commissioners. 1837-1911. 4 vols.

County Commissioners Ledger of Accounts. 1840-1911. 1 vol.

Comptroller's Ledger of Doubtful Debts. 1839-1880. 1 vol.

Comptroller's List of County Treasurers and Fund Commissioners. 1873-1906. 1 vol.

Correspondence and Receipts for U.S. Deposit Fund Bonds. 1896-1897. .5 cf.

Reports and Correspondence. 1902-1909. 13 vols.

Closed U.S. Deposit Fund Mortgages and Farm Loan Mortgages. ca. 1912-1959. 20 cf.

Taxation Records

Inventories of Items Sold at Public Auction. 1785-1786. -.5 cf.

Accounts and Vouchers of Commissioners of Taxes for County Assessments. 1799-1800. .5 cf.

Tax Accounts of the Treasurer of the City and County of New York. 1801-1807. .5 cf.

Returns of Collectors of the U.S. Direct Tax. 1804-1840. .5 cf.

County Statements of Aggregate Valuations for Real and Personal Estates and Taxes Paid. 1804-1910. 1 cf.

Documentation Pertaining to Assessment and Collection of Taxes for Road Construction. 1811-1815. 1 vol.

Bills for Public Notices regarding the Direct Tax. 1815. -.5 cf.

Account Book Listing the State's Share of Taxes Levied by Counties. 1816-1829. 1 vol.

Entry Documentation relating to Tax on Steamboat Companies. ca. 1820-1840. -.5 cf.

Documentation Pertaining to Taxes on Incorporated Companies. ca. 1824-1828. 1 vol.

Insurance Company Bonds and Reports of Agents. 1825-1880. .5 cf.

List of Auctioneers. 1830-1840. 3 vol.

Freight Account Book From Steamboat "Red Jacket." 1839. 1 vol.

Passenger List from Steamboat "Red Jacket." 1839. 1 vol.

Entry Documentation from the Superintendent of the Onondaga Salt Springs. 1841-1842. -.5 cf.

Accounts of Taxes Collected on Steamboat "Richmond." -.5 cf.

Weekly Returns of Deposits for Salt Duties at the Onondaga Salt Springs. 1843-1848. -.5 cf.

Tax Searches. 1893-1895. -.5 cf.

School Tax Lists for the Town of Bolton, Warren County. 1896-1899. -.5 cf.

Register of Tax Monies Received. 1897-1907. .5 cf.

Tax Assessments for Railroads. 1900-1904. -.5 cf.

Taxes Levied for Repair of Highways. 1906-1909. -.5 cf.

Records of the Board of Barber Examiners relating to the Licensing of Barbers. 1906. -.5 cf.

Lists of Tax Payments Received. 1910 and 1917. .5 cf.

Entry Documentation relating to the State Franchise Tax. 1918-1919. 2 cf.

List of Tax Forms used by the State Tax Commission and State Comptroller. ca. 1920. -.5 cf.

Register of Distribution of Income from Taxes. ca. 1923-1938. -.5 cf.

Case File of Securities Deposited under Section 241 of the Tax Law. ca. 1924-1935. .5 cf.

Check Register for Income Tax Account. 1925-1940. -.5 cf.

Surety Bonds from County Clerks and Treasurers. 1926-1936. -.5 cf.

Licensing Receipts Account Book. ca. 1928-1932. -.5 cf.

Cash and Earned Income Statements of the Corporation Tax Bureau. 1938-1945. -.5 cf.

Village Constitutional Tax Margins. 1973-1975. 3 cf.

Canal Records: Reports, Minutes, Decisions, and Correspondence

James Geddes Report on Inland Navigation between the Great Lakes and the Hudson River. 1810-1811. -.5 cf.

Copy of a Report of the Commissioners of the Canal Fund. 1818. 1 item.

Resolution adopted by the Canal Commissioners. 1825. 1 item.

Minutes of a Meeting of the Champlain Canal Commissioners. 1825. 1 item.

Scrapbooks of Newspaper Articles relating to the Canals. 1823-1824. 2 vols.

Outgoing Correspondence of the Chief Clerk of Canals. 1826-1886. 34 vols.

Index to Canal Board Correspondence, Contracts, and Petitions. 1828-1832. 1 vol.

Minutes of Meetings of the Commissioners of the Canal Fund. 1827-1889. 14 vols.

Minutes of Meetings of the Canal Board. 1817-1875. 21 vols.

"Rough Minutes" of Meetings of the Canal Board. 1832-1926. 81 vols.

Canal Commissioners Minutes. 1849-1857, 1880-1881. 1 vol.

Index to Decisions of the Canal Board. 1845-1849. 1 vol.

Decisions of the Canal Board. 1880-1881. 1 vol.

Impeachment Subpoena for Trial of John C. Mather, Canal Commissioner. 1853. 1 item.

Canal Auditor's Decisions. 1854-1882. 1 vol.

Dates of Occupation on Lands Appropriated for the Barge Canal System certified to the Comptroller by the State Engineer and Surveyor. 1906-1916. 1 vol.

Monthly Reports of the State Engineer and Surveyor on Barge Canal Construction. 1910-1916. 1 vol.

Official Orders of the Department of Public Works, Division of Canals and Waterways. 1927-1939. 3 vols.

Canal Records: Maps and Surveys

Survey Maps for the Erie Canal. 1817. 1 vol.

Canal Commissioners Surveys. 1832-1841. 14 vols.

Maps and Plans for Projected Canal Alterations. ca. 1830-1851. 1 vol.

Canal Engineer's (Holmes Hutchinson) Erie Canal Survey. 1834. 10 vols.

Canal Engineer's (Holmes Hutchinson) Field Books of the Erie Canal. 1834. 1 vol.

Canal Engineer's (Holmes Hutchinson) Field Notes of the Erie Canal. 1834. 2 vols.

Commutation Releases for Farm Bridges over the Erie Canal. ca. 1840-1860. 1.5 cf.

Whipple's Report on Canal Weighlocks. 1860. -.5 cf.

Map of Lands Wet by Leakage from the Chemung Feeder. 1864. 1 item.

State Engineer and Surveyor's Map and Plans for the Hudson and Champlain Improvement Survey. 1866. 1 vol.

Photographs and Diagrams of Canal Highway and Watershed Construction. 1902-1907. 1 vol.

Notices of Service upon Owners of Land Appropriated for the Barge Canal. 1905-1916. 3 vols.

State Engineer and Surveyor's "Blue Line" Maps of Canal Lands. 1917-1948. 2 cf.

Canal Improvement Contract. 1818. 1 item.

Contract for a Canal Lock at the Village of Waterford. 1821. 1 item.

Contract for a Canal Lock and Dam in the Hudson River above the City of Troy. 1823. 1 item.

Contract for Construction of the Chemung Canal. 1830. 1 item.

Canal Records: Receipts and Disbursements

Canal Commissioner's Journal of Checks. 1817-1824. 1 vol.

Canal Commissioner's Abstracts of Audited Canal Accounts. 1817-1840. 2 vols.

Comptroller's Ledger of the 1817 Canal Loan. 1817-1824. 1 vol.

Canal Fund Accounts Receipt and Disbursement Book. 1824. 1 vol.

Comptroller's Fund Ledger. 1831-1863. 1 vol.

Canal Accounts Ledger No. 3. 1835-1838. 1 vol.

Commissioners of the Canal Fund Daybook and Journal No. 8. 1840. 1 vol.

Canal Superintendent's Accounts. 1852-1858. 1 vol.

Transferred Accounts for Improvements and Repairs on the Black River Canal. 1904. .5 cf.

Bureau of Canal Affairs Engineer's Accounts. 1899-1920. 1 vol.

Daily Bank Balances of the Canal Fund. 1922-1927. .5 cf.

Receipts for Payments for Canal Related Services Issued by the Canal Commissioners. 1811-1812. -.5 cf.

Payments for Construction Work. 1817-1841. 1 vol.

Petitions to the Canal Board for Compensation, Repairs and Appointments. 1828, 1862. .5 cf.

Whipple's Petition regarding a Claim for Patent Fees on Iron Bridges. 1862. 2 items.

Register of General and Canal Fund Bonds. c. 1920-1930. .5 cf.

Canal Revenue Certificate Loan Bonds. 1857. 2 items.

Lists of Stockholders of Canal Loans. 1815-1823. .5 cf.

Canal Stocks. 1828. -.5 cf.

Accounts of the Collectors of Canal Tolls. 1837. -.5 cf.

Canal Toll Revenues. 1839. -.5 cf.

Deposits of Canal Tolls. 1839-1840. -.5 cf.

Canal Collector's Book. ca. 1840. 1 vol.

List of Canal Tolls Paid by Railroads. 1849-1851. -.5 cf.

Passenger Lists. 1827-1829. 1 cf.

Register of Canal Boats. 1859. -.5 cf.

Canal Boat Registration. 1838, 1852, 1881. -.5 cf.

Canal Boat Name Changes. 1848. -.5 cf.

Oaths by Canal Boat Pilots. 1827-1829. -.5 cf.

Canal Investigating Commission

Reports, Correspondence, and Photographs from the Canal Investigating Commission. ca. 1895-1912. 6 cf.

Governor Charles S. Whitman presided over the official opening of the State Barge Canal at the Waterford lock in 1915.

Banking Department

State banking policy began with a 1782 act prohibiting the operation of any bank within the state except for the federal Bank of North America. In 1791, the legislature authorized a charter for the first state bank, the Bank of New York, and thereafter chartered other banks by special acts. An 1829 (Ch. 94) law set up the Bank Fund, later renamed the Safety Fund, to guarantee the payment of debts of insolvent banks. All state-chartered banks were required to make an annual contribution to the fund, which was managed by the State Treasurer. The same law provided for the appointment of three bank commissioners to examine the financial status of banks and to report annually to the Legislature.

State regulation of banks was altered by the Banking Law of 1838 (Ch. 260), which required banks to file certificates of incorporation with the Secretary of State and report annually to the Comptroller. In 1843, the Safety Fund and the Office of Bank Commissioners were abolished, and bank examination responsibilities were transferred to the Comptroller. Bank regulatory functions of the Comptroller and Secretary of State were subsequently transferred to the Banking Department headed by a Superintendent of Banking, established in 1851 (Ch. 164). No major alteration of banking policy occurred for the next seventy-five years, and the Banking Department was continued (Ch. 352, L. 1926) after the 1925 constitutional reorganization of state government.

In 1932 (Ch. 118) the Banking Board was created to advise and cooperate with the Banking Department in the formulation of banking standards and to exercise power to approve or disapprove the issuance of bank charters and licenses and the establishment of branch banks. The Superintendent of Banking is chairman and ex officio member of the Board, which consists of twelve other members appointed by the Governor for three-year terms.

At present the Department is empowered to supervise and periodically examine state banks, trust companies, safe deposit companies, licensed lenders, credit unions, private bankers, sales finance companies, certain employee welfare funds, and licensed cashers of checks. It has broad powers to enforce sound policies of bank management. The Superintendent may issue orders to discontinue unlawful or unsafe practices and may remove directors, trustees, or officers of banking institutions from their posts for repeated violations of the law or unsound practices. Under certain conditions

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the Superintendent may take possession of a banking institution and liquidate it for the benefit of depositors and other creditors.

Records

Account Book relative to the Circulation of Bank Notes. 1835-1843. .5 cf.

Register of Bank Note Plates by Banks. 1838-1842. .5 cf.

Ledger of Paper Money in Circulation. 1838-1854. .5 cf.

Note Register (Securities deposited for circulation notes). 1838-1840. .5 cf.

Note Register (Received and Delivered). 1838-1842, 1848-1854. .5 cf.

Registry Ledger (Notes in Circulation). 1838-1846. .5 cf.

Note Register (Notes in Circulation). 1838-1851. .5 cf.

Note Register (Bank Certificates and Orders). 1838-1847. .5 cf.

Register's Receipts of Impressions. 1839-1866. 1 cf.

Book of Orders for Bank Notes. 1839-1849. .5 cf.

Roster of Corporations. ca. 1840-1930. .5 cf.

Ledger of Protested Bank Notes. 1840-1870. .5 cf.

Register of Bank Redemption Agents. 1840-1867. .5 cf.

Registers of Stock. 1841-1868. .5 cf.

Day Book of Interest on Stocks at Banks. 1843-1870. 4 cf.

Comptroller's Ledger (Incorporated Bank Department: Letters.) 1843-1847. .5 cf.

Comptroller's Ledger of General Transactions. 1843-1849. .5 cf.

Register of Plate. 1843-1844. .5 cf.

Ledger of Expenses for Examinations. 1844-1895. .5 cf.

Note Register (Notes Delivered). 1844-1847. .5 cf.

Note Register (Received and Disposed of). 1844. .5 cf.

Bank Note Circulation Ledger. 1844. .5 cf.

Circulation Journal. 1844-1850. .5 cf.

Daybooks Relating to Sealing and Burning of Notes. 1844-1881. 12 cf.

Register Containing Articles of Association and List of Officers for the Long Island Bank. 1845. .5 cf.

Schedule of Bank Fund Stock. 1845. .5 cf.

Diary of Bank Notes. 1847-1874. 15 cf.

Register of Sealing and Burning of Notes. 1848-1850. .5 cf.

Ledger of Bank Notes in Circulation. 1850-1858. .5 cf.

Register of Checks issued from Bank Funds. 1851-1865. .5 cf.

Register of Securities. 1851-1868. 1 cf.

Bank Fund Ledger. 1851-1873. .5 cf.

Bank Fund Day Book and Journal. 1851-1873. .5 cf.

Register of Power of Attorney. 1852-1906. 1 cf.

Ledger of Notes in Circulation. 1852-1929. 4 cf.

Register of Mutilated Impressions Burned. 1852-1865. .5 cf.

Account Book of Interest Paid on Bank Notes, Stocks and Mortgages. 1854-1865. 1 cf.

Register of Quarterly Balances Book. 1856-1888. .5 cf.

Register of Stocks, Bonds and Mortgages Transferred. 1857-1880. 1 cf.

Journal of Bank Notes, Stocks and Bonds. 1857-1907. 33 cf.

Register of Securities Held in Trust for Banks. 1857-1916. 7 cf.

Circulation Day Book for Incorporated Banks. 1858-1870. 1 cf.

Register of Securities. 1858-1873. .5 cf.

Register of Notes. 1859-1873. .5 cf.

Register of Stocks and Mortgages. 1862-1867. 1 cf.

Register of Plates. ca. 1863. .5 cf.

Order Book: American Bank Note Company. 1865. .5 cf.

Day Book of Transactions with Individuals. 1870-1873. .5 cf.

Accounts of Savings Bank Expenses. 1870-1909. .5 cf.

Journal of Expenses for Special Examination. 1884-1904. 1 cf.

Register of Examinations of Building and Loan Association. 1887-1923. 1 cf.

Register of Out of State Investments and Mortgages. 1890-1891. .5 cf.

Certificates of Association of Banks of Deposit and Discount. 1892-1916. 1 cf.

Register of Affidavit of Publication of Orders or Changes of Names of Banks. 1896-1921. .5 cf.

Abstracts of Disciplinary Letters to Banks. 1897-1908. 9 cf.

Ledger of Miscellaneous Accounts. 1898-1924. 1 cf.

Register of Oaths Filed by Banks, Trust Companies and Savings and Loan Associations. 1901-1903. .5 cf.

Certificates of Organization and Authorization of Private Banks, Private Bankers, Personal Loan Brokers and Credit Unions. 1902-1922. 1 cf.

Journals of Transactions Relative to Stocks. 1910-1943. 5 cf.

Register of Oaths of Directors of Savings and Loan Associations. 1911. .5 cf.

Certificates of Association of Banks of Deposit and Discount, Mortgage Companies and Miscellaneous Corporations. 1916-1919. .5 cf.

Certificates of Authorization and Organization of Banks of Deposit and Discount Trust Companies, Investment Companies, Miscellaneous Corporations and Savings and Loan Associations. 1919-1921. 15 cf.

Register of Application Certificates of Banks for Authorization of Fiduciary Powers. 1921-1923. .5 cf.

Ledger of General Transactions. 1924-1929. .5 cf.

Cash Receipts Journal. 1930-1946. 1 cf.

General Ledger. 1930-1957. .5 cf.

Department of Civil Service

New York's first Civil Service Law, enacted in 1883 (Ch. 354), provided for a merit system of competitive examinations for the appointment and promotion of state government employees and established a Civil Service Commission, consisting of three persons appointed by the Governor, to administer the law. A year later civil service provisions were extended to oversee the establishment and operation of municipal civil service commissions. In 1894 the principle of the merit system was embodied in the new state constitution.

Following the 1925 constitutional amendments that reorganized state government, the Department of Civil Service was created with the Civil Service Commission designated as the head of the department (Ch. 354, L. 1926). A 1953 law authorized the Governor to designate one commissioner as President of the Commission and chief administrator of the Department.

The Department administers the state civil service law and is the central personnel agency for departments and agencies of state government. It determines job titles, salary levels, and qualifications for positions in the classified service of the state; recruits and tests applicants for entry and promotion within the state service; administers insurance programs; and provides various services relating to the health, training, and performance of state employees.

The Civil Service Commission supervises the operations and approves the rules and regulations of local government civil service commissions and personnel officers. In addition, the Commission hears and makes determinations on appeals on a wide variety of civil service matters, including classification, discipline, examination, disqualification, salary, and title.

Records

Correspondence of the Secretary of the Civil Service Commission. 1892-1930. 274 cf.

Public Employment Relations Board

During the first half of the twentieth century, public employee organizations were established to seek job security and other benefits for government employees. Although strikes by public employees were proscribed by common law, a series of municipal employee strikes after World War II led to enactment of the Condon-Wadlin Act in 1947 (Ch. 391), establishing penalties for striking public employees. Three years later an executive order was issued guaranteeing state employees the right to join employee organizations and creating a grievance procedure.

In the early 1960s the continuing incidence of government labor-management confrontation, especially in New York City, showed the need for systematic conciliation and employee representation procedures. However it was not until 1967 (Ch. 392) that the Public Employees' Fair Employment Act (also known as the Taylor Law) was passed to resolve these issues. This law continued the prohibition against strikes by public employees (including penalties), granted public employees the right of organization and representation, imposed upon public employers the duty to recognize and negotiate with employee organizations, and created the Public Employment Relations Board to resolve disputes.

The Board, which consists of three gubernatorial appointees, is placed administratively within the Department of Civil Service but is not subject to its control. The Board's responsibilities include: appointing mediators and fact-finders to resolve disputes, providing information on wages, benefits, and employment conditions; investigating and ruling on improper labor practice charges; and ruling on representation questions. The Board appoints an executive director and appropriate staff to carry out its business.

No Records in State Archives

Department of Commerce

The department evolved from two separate organizations created in 1935: the Division of State Planning in the Executive Department and the Bureau of State Publicity in the Conservation Department. The former, which was mandated to coordinate plans for state economic development, succeeded a five-member State Planning Council appointed by the Governor. The Council remained the administrative head of the new Division (Ch. 304, L. 1935). The publicity bureau directed promotion and advertising campaigns for the state (Ch. 808, L. 1935).

Following a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Commission on Labor and Industrial Relations, these two organizations were combined in 1941 (Ch. 216) into a Division of Commerce in the Executive Department. A 1943 constitutional amendment authorized changing the division into a department of state government. This was accomplished by a statute (Ch. 4) that established the Department of Commerce to promote the economic development of the state.

The department promotes business development by conducting research and planning programs, assists business and industry in contracts with regulatory agencies, facilitates access to national and international markets, aids community economic development, promotes tourism, and recommends legislative and administrative action to encourage economic development and new job opportunities.

Records

Reports and Hearing Transcripts of the Temporary State Commission on the Environmental Impact of Major Public Utility Facilities. 1961-1972. 1 cf.

Department of Correctional Services

The origin of the correctional services system dates from a 1796 law authorizing construction of state prisons at Albany and New York City. No prison was built at Albany, but Newgate prison opened in New York City in 1797. Expanding inmate populations resulted in the establishment of additional prisons in 1817, 1825, and 1844. Enabling legislation for construction of each facility provided for gubernatorial appointment of a board of inspectors to administer the prison. These boards, in turn, appointed prison wardens. The 1846 state constitution established a single Board of Prison Inspectors to oversee the operation of all state prisons. An amendment passed in 1876 abolished the board and replaced it with the office of Superintendent of State Prisons.

The 1925 reorganization of state government abolished the office of Superintendent and set up a Department of Correction to administer the state prison system, which by then included four general confinement male prisons, a women's prison, reformatories, a training school, hospitals for insane convicts, and an institution for delinquents (Ch. 606, L. 1926). The new Department, headed by a Commissioner appointed by the Governor, included a Division of Administration, responsible for general supervision over the custody and discipline of prisoners and maintenance of institutions; a Division of Prison Industries that supervised prison and reformatory production shops and farm work; a Division of Parole, headed by the Board of Parole for State Prisons (formerly an independent board established in 1908), that assumed the powers and duties formerly assigned to the independent board; and a Division of Probation, headed by the State Probation Commission (formerly an independent commission established in 1907), that assumed the powers and duties of the former State Probation Commission. A state Commission of Correction, assuming the responsibilities of the state Commission of Prisons established by the 1894 constitution, was created and placed under administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Correction. Although headed by the new departmental commissioner, the Commission retained independent constitutional powers to inspect state prisons or local jails throughout New York (Ch. 606, L. 1926).

In 1930, the Division of Parole, including the Board of Parole, was transferred to the Executive Department. A 1970 (Ch. 475) statutory reorganization consolidated the Department of Correction, Commission of Correction, and the Division of Parole, including the Board of Parole, as a new Department of Correctional Services, headed by a Commissioner. A companion law (Ch. 479, L. 1970) removed the Division of Probation from the department and transferred it to the Executive Department. In 1975 the Commission of Correction was also separated from the Department of Correctional Services and made an independent agency within the Executive Department. Administration of hospitals for mentally ill inmates was transferred to the Department of Mental Hygiene in 1977. That same year, the Division of Parole was again removed from the department and made an independent Executive Department agency.

The Department of Correctional Services, with central offices in Albany, is currently responsible for the care, treatment and rehabilitation of all offenders sentenced to thirty state correctional facilities.

See also: Commission of Correction, Division of Parole, and Division of Probation.

Records

Central Administration

Prison Operating Reports. 1928-1933. 2 cf.

Attorney General's Opinions and Correspondence to the Prison Department. c. 1892-1957. 3 cf.

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility (Westfield State Farm)

Inmate Case Files. 1924-1957. 12 cf. R.

Ossining Correctional Facility (Sing Sing Prison)

Inmate Admission Registers. 1865-1960. 33 cf.

Inmate Admission Registers for Federal Prisoners. 1896-1908. .5 cf.

Inmate Admission Registers for Prisoners to be Executed. 1891-1946. .5 cf.

Case Files of Inmates sentenced to Electrocution. 1939-1963. 11 cf. R.

Principal Keeper's Security Ledgers. 1890-1953. 3 cf. R.

Albion Correctional Facility
(Western House of Refuge for Women; Albion State Training School)

Office Files of the Warden. c. 1903-1963. 4 cf.

Inmate Admission Ledgers. 1893-1971. 12 v.

Inmate Case Files. 1893-1971. 167 cf. R.

Daily Census of Inmate Population. 1960-1964. 4 cf.

Principal Keeper's Daily Journal of Infractions and Complaints. 1942-1969. 5 cf. R.

Psychological Evaluation Tests and Reference Information. c. 1960. 1 cf.

Psychological Evaluation Reports. c. 1962-1970. 5 cf. R.

Employee Files. c. 1950-1965. 7 cf. R.

New York House of Refuge

Minutes of the Board of Managers. 1857-1868, 1893-1896. 13 vols.

Minutes of the Acting (Executive) Committee. 1824-1935. 13 vols.

Committee Reports to the Board of Managers. 1857-1889. 2 vols.

Daily Journals. 1825-1935. 29 vols.

Daily Journal of the City Office. 1876-1880. 1 vol.

Daily Journal - Girl's Division. 1873-1896. 4 vols.

Special Reports to the Executive Committee. 1901-1909. 5 vols.

Minutes of Ladies Committee. 1825-1831. 1 vol.

Reports of Visiting Committee. 1844-1893. 2 vols.

Minutes of the School Committee. 1855-1916. 3 vols.

Minutes of the Building Committee. 1851-1861. 1 vol.

Minutes of the Reception and Parole Committee. 1931. 3 vols.

Manager's Facility Inspection Reports. 1897-1902. 2 vols.

Register of Applicants and Employees. 1856-1918. 1 vol.

Honorary Membership of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents. 1874-1885. 1 vol.

Inmate Case Files. 1825-1935. 108 vols. R.

Admission and Discharge Registers. 1859-1932. 8 vols.

Register of Hospital and Dispensary Treatment. 1855-1935. 15 vols.

Minutes of the Indenture Committee. 1827-1839, 1860-1913. 13 vols.

Indentures. 1825-1904. 39 vols.

Register of Masters. 1825-1902. 3 vols.

Records of Indenture Cases by County. 1860-1875. 1 vol.

List of Applications for Parole. 1860-1891. 1 vol. R.

Register of Paroles. 1882-1933. 3 vols. R.

Parole Officers Reports. 1894-1904, 1908-1925. 22 vols. R.

Records of Home Examinations. 1875-1876. 1 vol.

Chaplain's Reports. 1863-1892. 1 vol.

Treasurer's General Accounts. 1855-1896. 2 vols.

Account Ledgers. 1824-1932. 8 vols.

Audited Bills. 1909-1933. 3 vols.

Financial Daybooks and Journals. 1824-1934. 21 vols.

Audited Bills-Industrial Department. 1888-1900. 2 vols.

Industrial Department Financial Book. 1888-1900. 1 vol.

Financial Daybooks of the Industrial Department. 1888-1894. 2 vols.

Receipt Book for Services Rendered. 1852-1855. 1 vol.

Cash Receipts and Payments. 1894-1900. 1 vol.

Receipts of Disbursements and Supplies. 1920-1931. 1 vol.

Visitors Registers. 1864-1883, 1901-1934. 2 vols.

Files relating to Investigations and Hearings. 1902, 1909, 1911. 15 vols.

Inventories of Equipment. 1911-1934. 13 vols.

Newspaper Articles and Scrapbooks. 1892-1896, 1903, 1924-1925. 5 vols.

Auburn Correctional Facility (Auburn Prison)

Annual Reports of Auburn Prison and State Prison for Women. 1919-1974. 5 cf.

Inmate Case Files, Discharged by Death. 1933-1959. 5 cf. R.

Psychological Evaluation Tests and Reference Information. 1938-1961. 5 cf.

Psychological Evaluation Reports. 1938-1939, 1956-1961. 2 cf. R.

Warden's Office Files. 1901-1973. 8 cf.

Correctional Volunteer Services Office Files. c. 1970-1974. 1 cf.

Inmate Case Files. 1919-1952. 126 cf. R.

Classification Clinic Case Files. 1914-1940. 23 cf. R.

Minutes of Meetings of the Parole Board. 1905-1920. 2 cf.

Register of Commutations. 1889-1912. 1 cf.

Parole Board Female Inmate Case Files. 1920-1930. 1 cf. R.

Parole Board Ledgers of Applicants to be considered for Parole. 1924-1935. 3 cf. R.

Parole Board Register of Inmates Paroled. c. 1893-1926. .5 cf.

Register of Female Inmates Received. 1893-1918, 1928-1933. 2 cf.

Register of Female Inmates Discharged. 1893-1920. 1 cf.

Female Inmate Identification File (Bertillion Ledger). 1909-1933. 1 cf.

Principal Keeper's Security Files. 1873-1940. 30 cf. R.

Punishment Ledger. 1836-1846. 1 vol.

Physician's Register of Inmates Admitted. 1900-1905, 1909-1920. 2 cf.

Physician's Register of Inmates Discharged. 1909-1947. 2 cf.

Hospital Daily Statistical Summary. 1904-1919. .5 cf.

Register of Deaths. 1888-1937. .5 cf.

Physician's Office Files. 1915-1968. 4 cf.

Prison Industry and Maintenance Accounts. 1866-1975. 10 cf.

Register of Male Inmates Received. 1817-1953. 9 vols.

Male Inmate Identification Files (Bertillion Ledger). 1921-1930. 2 vols.

Register of Indefinite and Definite Sentences. 1897-1932. 6 vols.

Register of Commutations for Female Inmates. 1920-1929. 1 vol.

Daily Reports of Male Population. c. 1879-1952. 1 cf.

Inmate Newspaper, Star of Hope. 1901-1902, 1905-1906. -.5 cf.

Daily Reports of Female Population. 1894-1906. -.5 cf.

Financial Account Ledger. 1821-1825. 1 vol.

Clinton Correctional Facility (Dannemora Prison)

Office Files of the Warden. 1845-1945. 2 cf.

Annual Reports. 1922-1959. 2 cf.

Warden's Summary Punishment Card File. c. 1926-1948. 2 cf. R.

Office Files of the Principal Keeper. 1868-1973. 8 cf. R.

Inmate Admission Ledgers. 1846-1866, 1926-1948. 5 cf.

Daily Inmate Population Census Journals. 1920-1930. 4 cf.

Prison Industry Account Books. 1844-1915. 5 cf.

Chaplain's Statistical Register. c. 1890. .5 cf.

Medical and Psychiatric Reports of Inmates. 1934-1967. 127 cf. R.

Register of Hospital Visits and Treatments. 1897-1938. 3 cf.

Photographs of Prison. 1900-1950. 4 cf.

Executive Office Files of Clinton Diagnostic Treatment Center/ Adirondack Correctional Treatment and Evaluation Center. 1966-1975. 31 cf.

ACTEC Inmate Case Files. 1966-1975. 3 cf. R.

Elmira Correctional Facility (Elmira Reformatory)

Annual Reports. 1870-1920. 1 cf.

Inmate Receiving Ledger. 1877-1883. 1 vol.

Inmate Consecutive Register. 1877-1950. 10 vols.

Inmate Biographical Ledger. 1879-1957. 168 vols. R.

Summary Register of Men Returned for Violation of Parole. 1907-1948. 2 vols.

Biographical Register of Returned Men. 1913-1937. 10 vols. R.

Alphabetical Index to Inmate Consecutive Numbers. 1877-1935. 11 vols.

Conduct Ledgers. 1886-1905. 40 vols. R.

Count Book, Record Office. 1928-1952. 12 vols.

Night Log Book, Captain's Office. 1945-1957. 4 vols.

Biographical Register of Federal Prisoners. 1902-1934. 2 vols.

Nickname Ledger. ca. 1940. 1 vol.

Register of Italian Inmates. 1915-1930. 1 vol.

Ledger of Cumulative Statistics on Inmate Population. 1915-1923. 1 vol.

Examining Physician's Memoranda File. 1918-1928. 1 vol.

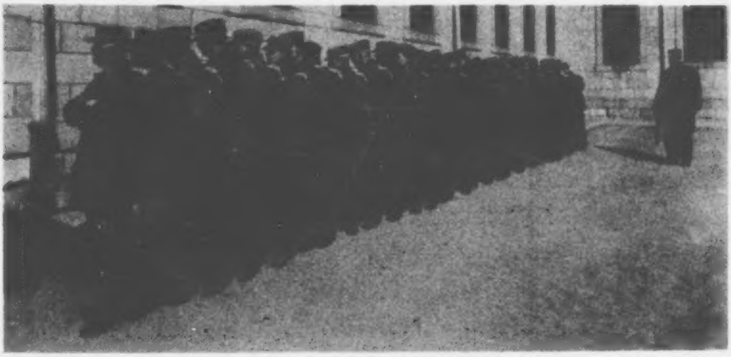
Admission Register of the Eastern New York (Napanoch) Reformatory. 1900-1908. 1 vol.

Discharge Register of the Eastern New York (Napanoch) Reformatory. 1900-1909. 1 vol.

Record of Returned Men, Eastern New York (Napanoch) Reformatory. 1916-1920. 1 vol.

Newgate Prison

Ledger of Prisoners Received. 1797-1810. 1 vol.



Uniformed prisoners line up in "lock-step" at Clinton (Dannemora) Prison around the turn of the century.

State Education Department

New York State's education system has antecedents in both English and Dutch colonial concepts of education. The Dutch, concerned with providing widespread general education, established tax-supported common schools under church and state control in most of New Netherland's communities. Under the English, who established a system of private or church-supported academies, emphasis was placed on advanced education of the elite and the common school system of the Dutch all but disappeared. In 1754 the first college in the colony, King's College, was founded in New York City under a royal charter and was ruled by a board of governors designated by the colonial government.

In 1784 (Ch. 51) the Legislature enacted the first education bill in the state's history, creating the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York to act as governing body of King's College, which was renamed Columbia College. This act designated the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the Assembly, mayors of Albany and New York, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and twenty four other members appointed by the Council of Appointment as the Board of Regents.

Three years later (Ch. 82, L. 1787) Board membership was changed to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and nineteen members appointed by the Legislature, and the functions of the Board were significantly altered. Relieved of direct operating responsibility for Columbia College, the Board was authorized to charter new colleges and to exercise general supervision over Columbia and any new colleges. At the same time the Board was charged with supervision of all academies, authorized to charter new ones, and empowered to grant finanical aid—in the form of monetary or land grants—to colleges, and in small monetary amounts to academies.

During its first year of operation the reorganized Board of Regents recommended state support for public schools. However, no action was taken until 1795 (Ch. 75), when the Legislature appropriated $100,000 a year for each of the next five years to encourage the establishment of common schools under the supervision of town commissioners.

Further action to encourage public education was taken in 1805 (Ch. 66) when the Comptroller was authorized to sell certain state lands and use the proceeds to establish a "permanent fund for the support of public schools." After the accumulation of fifty thousand dollars in interest, the interest was to be "distributed and applied for the support of common schools." In 1812 (Ch. 242), the Common School Act provided for a Superintendent of Common Schools, appointed by the Council of Appointment, to "prepare plans for the improvement and management of the common school fund, and for the better organization of common schools."

The office of Superintendent was abolished in 1821 and the duties transferred to the Secretary of State, where they remained until the establishment of a Department of Public Instruction in 1854 (Ch. 97). This Department which existed for fifty years, exercised steadily increasing advisory and supervisory powers over the public school system, while the Board of Regents continued general control of colleges and universities and of private academies. A Superintendent of Public Instruction, elected by the Legislature, headed the new Department and was also an ex officio regent. Meanwhile the Union Free School Act of 1853 (Ch. 433) had extended public support of education to the secondary level by permitting cities and other populous places to consolidate many common school districts into a single district and to organize public high schools under the control of the district board of education. The Superintendent of Public Instruction supervised these new secondary schools, but there was overlap with the authority of the Regents because a provision of the 1853 law stated that "every academic department so established shall be under the visitation of the Regents of The University, and shall be subject in its course of education and matters pertaining thereto to all the regulations in regard to academies made by said Regents."

The state's educational system, which had expanded rapidly in the second half of the nineteenth century, was given a constitutional foundation in 1894. Article IX of the new constitution stipulated that "the Legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a system of free common schools, wherein all of the children of this state may be educated," and also provided for the continuation of the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York, with powers to be defined by the Legislature.

However, the existence of two separate education administrative bodies continued until enactment of the so-called Unification Act of 1904 (Ch. 40). This law reduced the number of elective Regents from nineteen to eleven and abolished ex officio membership. The Department of Public Instruction was replaced by the State Education Department, headed by a commissioner who was also the chief executive officer of the Board of Regents.

The first commissioner was chosen by the Legislature for a six-year term and thereafter the officer was appointed by the Regents. The Regents governed The University of the State of New York, which included all educational institutions chartered by the Regents and all public schools under the administrative jurisdiction of the Education Department. Although the language of the Unification Act left some doubt as to the relationship between the Board of Regents and the Commissioner, actual practice followed the intent of the law to establish the Board of Regents as policymaking body and the Commissioner as chief administrative officer. The Education Department was continued after the 1925 reorganization of state government (Ch. 544, L. 1926), and a 1938 constitutional amendment clarified the role of the Commissioner as chief administrative officer of the Department serving at the pleasure of the Board of Regents.

The Board of Regents has been authorized by various laws to determine, through various boards of examiners appointed by them, the right of candidates to practice a profession. The boards establish minimum educational requirements for admission to the practice of law, dentistry, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, optometry, podiatry, massage, engineering and land surveying, architecture, ophthalmic dispensing, and psychology, and to practice as a registered nurse, certified public accountant, certified shorthand reporter, or chiropractor.

The Education Department's Office of Cultural Education administers the State Library, State Museum, State Archives, the Bureau of Mass Communications, and the Center for Intercultural Relations. A state library was first established in 1818, and placed under Regents control in 1844. The Regents were further empowered to charter local libraries in 1888. The State Museum is an administrative descendant of the State Geological and Natural History Survey begun in 1836, which was placed under the Regents as the State Cabinet of Natural History in 1870. When the Education Department was created in 1904, it included the State Museum and a separate Division of Science, but in 1945 the division became the State Science Service under the museum director. The museum also includes a Division of Historical and Anthropological Services that evolved in part from the Office of State Historian, created in 1895. This Division supervises officially appointed municipal historians, assists historical organizations in developing programs, and carries out Regents responsibility for chartering historical organizations. The

State Archives was established in 1971 as the official repository for historically valuable state government records, and also exercises responsibility for the preservation and disposition of loval government records, a responsibility vested with the Board of Regents since 1911.

Today, the Board of Regents, working through the State Education Department, incorporates all educational institutions in New York and supervises the operation of The University of the State of New York which consists of nearly 5,000 elementary and secondary schools, over two hundred colleges and universities including the State University of New York and The City University of New York, as well as libraries, museums, and other educational institutions.

Records

Board of Regents

Incoming Correspondence of the Secretary of the Regents. 1859-1871. 35 cf.

Minutes of Meetings of the Board of Regents. 1784-1862. 2 microfilm reels.

Reports of the Regents Inquiry into the Character and Cost of Education. 1935-1954. 18 cf.

Audio Tapes of Regents Convocations. 1954-1975. 4 cf.

Superintendent of Common Schools

Correspondence of the Superintendent of Common Schools. 1845-1847. .5 cf.

Department of Public Instruction

Outgoing Correspondence of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. 1854-1904. 32 vols. and 63 cf.

Incoming Correspondence of Superintendent of Public Instruction. 1888-1902. 1 cf.

List of Appointments of Employees of Department of Public Instruction. 1895-1901. .5 cf.

List of Normal School Officials and Employees. 1864-1873. .5 cf.

List of Normal School Graduates. 1845-1905. .5 cf.

Record of Appointments to Positions in the Department of Public Instruction and Local Board of Managers of State Normal Schools. 1895-1901. 1 vol.

Record of Normal and Training School Teachers and Officers of the Local Board of Education. 1865-1873. 1 vol.

State Teacher's Library Loan List. 1896-1899. 2 vols.

Exhibits of Public School Student's Work. ca. 1890. 4 cf.

Register of Students in the LeRoy Academic Institute. 1866-1891. .5 cf.

Register of Members of the National Education Association. 1896. 2 vols.

Commissioner of Education

Addresses of the Commissioner of Education. 1913. 2 cf.

Office Files of the Commissioner of Education. 1946-1978. 239 cf.

Films of Speeches by the Commissioner of Education. 1964. 1 cf.

Office Files of the Deputy Commissioner of Education. 1943-1955. 200 cf.

Sesquicentennial Celebration Files. 1927. 1 cf.

Blueprints of the World's Fair Commission for Exhibit Buildings and Amphitheatre. 1940. 1 pkg.

Working Files for Nassau County School Study. c. 1950-1955. 1 cf.

Working Files of the Departmental Commission to Study the Records Administration Program of the State. 1946-1947. .5 cf.

Working Files for the Commissioner's Inquiry into New York City School Construction. 1958-1959. 3 cf.

Victory Book Campaign Files. 1940-1945. 3 cf.

Bureau of Statistical Services

Annual Reports of Schools and Museums. 1902-1954. 907 vols.

Annual Reports of Institutions of Higher Education. 1960-1965. 6 cf.

District School Enrollment Reports. 1923-1933. 1 cf.

Division of Educational Facilities Planning

Engineering Plans for State Schools. c. 1960-1970. 54 reels of microfilm.

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Case Files for Individuals in Rehabilitation Programs. 1927-1960. 13 cf. R.

Division of Visual Instruction

Annual Reports. 1912-1940. .5 cf.

Lantern Slide Educational Sets. 1912-1940. 33 cf.

Teachers Guides to Lantern Slide Sets. 1912-1940. 1 cf.

Adult Education, Immigrant Education Division

Copies of the Regents Literacy Tests for New Voters. 1922-1947. 1 cf.

Scrapbook of Clippings relating to the Regents Literacy Test Program. 1922-1932. .5 cf.

Teacher Certification

Teacher Certification Case Files. 1910-1930. 16 cf.

Office of Optional Education Programs

Office Files of Project Redesign. 1970-1974. 6 cf.

Thomas Indian School Records

Photographs of Activities at the Thomas Indian School. ca. 1910. 1 cf.

Account Book of the Thomas Indian School. 1879-1881. 1 vol.

Register Containing the Name of Trustees, Instructors, Indian Children, Visitors and Contributors to the Thomas Indian School. c. 1850-1880. 1 vol.

Register of Visitors to the Thomas Indian School. 1881-1896. 1 vol.

Register of Students of the Thomas Indian School. 1881-1896 and 1928-1943. 2 vol

Administration Files of the Thomas Indian School. c. 1856-1930. .5 cf.

Institutions for Handicapped Children

Appointments of Students to Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb. 1870-1904. 12 vols.

List of State Pupils in the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. 1848-1904. 1 vol.

List of State Pupils in the New York Institutions for the Blind. 1848-1904. 1 vol.

Native American Indian Education Unit

Johnson-O'Malley Act Project Files. 1971-1972. 1 cf.

Research Files for Regents Policy Statement. 1968-1972. 2 cf.

Educational Finance Office

School District Boundary Alterations. 1916-1975. 3 cf.

Division of Educational Testing

Lists of Candidates and Recipients of Regents Scholarships. 1897-1977. 18 cf.

Office of Cultural Education

Office Files of the Associate Commissioner for Cultural Education. 1960-1970. 12 cf.

Plans and Photographs Relating to the Construction of the Cultural Education Center in the South Mall. ca. 1966. 2 cf.

State Museum

Office Files of Museum Director/Assistant Commissioner. 1944-1969. 37 cf.

Office Files of the Assistant Director for the State Museum. 1942-1943. 1 cf.

Correspondence and Administrative Files of the State Geologist. 1825-1968. 80 cf.

Geological Survey Field Work Notes. 1835-1919. 1 cf.

Geological Survey Maps. ca. 1890-1965. 25 cf.

Register of Visitors to the State Museum's Geological and Agricultural Halls. 1873-1874. .5 cf.

Office Files of State Paleontologist. 1919-1954. 10 cf.

State Library

Public Hearings of the Governor's Commission on Libraries. 1977. 2 cf.

Photographs, Exhibition Plans and Governor's Proclamation Relating to the Shrine for the Emancipation Proclamation. 1962. 1 cf.

Office Files of the Planning Committee for the Shrine for the Emancipation Proclamation. 1962. 3 cf.

State Librarians' Correspondence. 1859-1871. 3 cf.

Bureau of Mass Communications

Videocassette of NBC TV's "Bicentennial Salute to New York." 1976. 1 cf.

Division of Historical and Anthropological Services (State Historian, Division of Archives and History, Office of State History, Division of Historical Services)

Correspondence of the State Historian. 1895-1898, 1947. 13.5 cf.

Incoming Correspondence to the State Historian Relating to the Spanish-American War. 1898-1899. -.5 cf.

Working Files, Drafts of Publications, and Teaching Notes of the State Historian. 1913-1914. 1 cf.

Correspondence of the State Historian Relating to Destruction of Records. 1941-1947. .5 cf.

Correspondence of the State Historian Relating to the Martin Van Buren Site. 1927-1928. .5 cf.

State Historian's Annual Reports. 1910-1947. .5 cf.

Speeches of the State Historian. 1940-1944. .5 cf.

Outgoing Correspondence of the Assistant State Historian. 1927-1932. 7 cf.

Description Files of Historic Sites. 1922-1925. 2 cf.

Photograph Negatives of Historic Sites. ca. 1940. 7 cf.

Photographs of Places of Scientific and Historic Interest. ca. 1940.

Correspondence Relating to Establishment of Historical "Bronze" Markers. 1926-1927. 3 cf.

Historical Sketches of State School Districts. 1918. 2.5 cf.

Working Files Relating to Town and County Historical Celebrations. ca. 1920. 2 cf.

Working Files Relating to Historical Research. ca. 1917-1945. 3 cf.

Typescripts of Publications by State Historian's Office. c. 1920. 1 cf.

Files Relating to the 150th Anniversary of the American Revolution. 1926-1968. 4 cf.

Inventories of Public School Records. 1936. .5 cf.

Federal Works Progress Administration: Projects Sponsored by the Division of Archives and History

Office Files of Director of Research and Records Project. 1936-1942. 7 cf.

Historical Records Survey Correspondence. 1936-1942. 16 cf.

Payroll Sheets. 1936-1940. 2 cf.

Inventory of State and Local Government Records. 1936-1941. 88 cf.

Inventory of Church Records. 1936-1942. 5 cf.

Building Forms and Plans. 1936-1941. 9 cf.

Copies of Charts and Maps for Projected Publications. 1936-1941. 3 cf.

Inventory Cards of American Imprints in New York Libraries. 1936-1942. 22 cf.

Writer's Project Research Files. 1936-1942. 108 cf.

Biography Sketches of Important New Yorkers 1936-1942. 3 cf.

Working Files for Historical Album of New York State. 1941. 5 cf.

Motion Picture Division

Register of Fee Payments and Seals. 1927-1965. 1 cf.

Correspondence with Distributors and Exchanges. 1927-1965. 2 cf.

Bank Reports and Financial Statements. 1940-1965. 4 cf.

Research Files of Publications from Censorship Boards. 1940-1965. 1 cf.

Research File of Harrison's Reports. 1943-1965. 2 cf.

Publications File: New York State Eliminations Bulletins. 1953-1965. 4 cf.

Eliminations Record Books. 1921-1965. 5 cf.

Correspondence with State Agencies. 1927-1965. 4 cf.

Censorship files. 1930-1965. 4 cf.

Personnel files. 1948-1965. 2 cf.

Inspectors' Report and Correspondence file. 1927-1965. 3 cf.

Inspectors' Reports. 1927-1965. 5 cf.

Printed Annual Reports. 1927-1965. 1 cf.

Printed Rules and Regulations. 1927-1965. 1 cf.

Administrative Files. 1921-1965. 20 cf.

Case Files of Motion Pictures Reviewed. 1921-1965. 1360 cf.

Index Card File to Case Files. 1921-1965. 4 cf.

State University of New York

State administration of higher education began in 1784 with the creation of the Regents of The University of the State of New York to act as the governing body of Columbia College, which had been founded in 1754 as King's College. Three years later the Regents were relieved of direct operating responsibility for Columbia College and were authorized instead to charter and supervise it along with any new colleges and academies.

The growth of New York's common school system in the early nineteenth century brought about a demand for trained teachers, resulting in the establishment of a normal school in Albany in 1844. This was the first state-supported (tuition-free) institution of higher learning in New York. Further expansion of public education in the 1850s, especially at the high school level, led to several proposals by both the Board of Regents and the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the establishment of additional state-supported colleges, but no action was taken on these proposals.

Following passage of the federal Morrill Land Grant College Act of 1862, under which each state received a grant of public land to provide an endowment for the establishment of colleges in the fields of agriculture and mechanical arts, the state Legislature assigned New York's grant to a private institution called "People's College" that had been chartered in 1853. That institution was unable to comply with certain financial requirements, and in 1865 the grant was shifted to Cornell University which had been incorporated earlier that year. Cornell's incorporation act included a requirement that the university annually admit and provide instruction free of charge to one student from each assembly district. This was the first instance, other than teacher training, in which the state assumed direct financial responsibility for higher education.

Increased demand for teachers after an 1867 state law that required free common school education, resulted in the establishment of additional normal schools for training teachers. These schools were placed under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. At the time of the Unification Act of 1904 there were twelve normal schools and seventy-eight private universities, colleges, and professional schools that were placed under the supervision of the Board of Regents and its administrative agency, the State Education Department. During the next forty years, New York developed a state-supervised, decentralized network of private institutions augmented by thirty-two colleges that were largely state-supported. The thirty-two state-supported institutions included eleven teachers colleges, six agricultural and technical institutes, five institutes of applied arts and sciences, three colleges operated by the Associated Colleges of Upper New York, the State Maritime Academy, the College of Forestry at Syracuse University, the College of Ceramics at Alfred University, and the College of Agriculture, Veterinary College, College of Home Economics, and School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University. A Regents College Scholarship program was begun in 1913 to distribute financial aid directly to students.

In the years immediately following World War II, two factors provided the impetus for the establishment of a state university: the shortage of facilities to meet the increased demand by returning war veterans for higher education, and economic considerations that made college education inaccessible to a large segment of the population. Recognizing the shortcomings of the existing system, Governor Thomas E. Dewey requested, and the Legislature approved, the establishment of a Temporary Commission on the need for a State University in 1946 (Ch. 353). This Commission was mandated to "examine into the need for a state university including professional and graduate schools to be established in the State, and to make appropriate recommendations in regard thereto." Two years later the commission presented its report which proposed the establishment of a State University with units located throughout the state.

A 1948 statute (Ch. 695), incorporating most of the temporary commission's recommendations, established the State University of New York as a corporate entity in the State Education Department under the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York. The thirty-two state-supported institutions became parts of the State University, which was administered by a board of trustees consisting of fifteen members appointed by the Governor. Although questions of policy regarding curriculum, standard of instruction, admission policy, and similar matters had to be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval, the SUNY trustees were given broad authority and responsibility for the development of the state's system of higher education, including a specific charge to formulate a master plan to serve as a long-range planning guide.

The master plan, adopted by the trustees in 1950, established the pattern of a centrally managed system of geographically dispersed two-year, four-year, and graduate institutions. Today, the State University of New York is comprised of sixty-four colleges and universities: four university centers, thirteen colleges of arts and sciences, six agricultural and technical schools, three colleges or centers for the health sciences, eight specialized colleges (five of which operate as "contract colleges" on the campuses of private universities,) and thirty locally sponsored community colleges. The SUNY Board of Trustees, which now has sixteen members with the addition, in 1975, of the President of the Student Assembly of the State University as a non-voting member, determines the procedures to be followed by the twenty-nine state-supported institutions. The five "contract colleges," while fully financed by the State University, are partially supervised by the trustees of the private universities where they are located. Each of the thirty community colleges has its own board of trustees, and is jointly administered by the State University board and the local board. The state contributes thirty-three to forty per cent of the operating costs and fifty per cent of the capital costs of the community colleges.

In 1951, the Research Foundation of State University of New York was established to receive and administer gifts, grants, and contracts for the University's many campuses. The Research Foundation also funds the University Press, the University Program in the Arts, the Empire State Youth Theatre Institute, and other special programs.

In 1962, the State University Construction Fund, a public benefit corporation, was created to facilitate planning and completion of capital construction programs, including academic, dormitory, and related projects.

The University operates nine Educational Opportunity Centers. These Centers, successors to the former Urban Centers and Cooperative College Centers, offer high school equivalency and college preparatory courses and emphasize non-degree vocational training.

Perhaps the most innovative feature of the State University is Empire State College. Founded in 1971, this "college without a campus" enables students working at home or on the job to pursue non-traditional paths to a degree under the supervision of University-designated docents.

No Records in State Archives

Department of Environmental Conservation

Creation of this Department in 1970 (Ch. 140) continued state conservation policy that originated a century earlier. The predecessor agencies to the Department of Environmental Conservation were the Fisheries Commission (1868-1895), Forest Commission (1885-1895), Fisheries, Game, and Forest Commission (1895-1900), Forest, Fish, and Game Commission (1900-1911), Water Storage Commission (1902-1903), River Improvement Commission (1904-1906), Water Supply Commission (1905-1911), Conservation Commission (1911-1926), and Conservation Department (1926-1970).

The Fisheries Commission was established in 1868 (Ch. 285) to restore and protect the production of fish in the state's rivers, lakes, and streams. The Forest Commission was created in 1885 (Ch. 283) to maintain and protect land in the Catskill and Adirondack mountains designated as a state forest preserve. Subsequent laws, including one in 1892 that created the Adirondack Park and another in 1904 that created the Catskill Park, and provisions of the 1894 constitution further regulated the lands. An 1897 law created a Forest Preserve Board to acquire additional land for the state. The Board originally consisted of three members appointed by the Governor, but in 1909 membership was charged to the Forest, Fish, and Game Commissioner and two commissioners of the Land Office.

In 1895 (Ch. 395) the Fisheries Commission and the Forest Commission were combined into a Fisheries, Game, and Forest Commission headed by five commissioners appointed by the Governor. This Commission was renamed the Forest, Fish, and Game Commission in 1900 (Ch. 20), and after 1903 was headed by a single commissioner.

A Water Storage Commission consisting of five gubernatorial appointees, the Superintendent of Public Works, the Forest, Fish, and Game Commissioner, the State Engineer and Surveyor, and the Attorney General, was established in 1902 (Ch. 406) to investigate and report on the state's water supply. Two years later (Ch. 734, L. 1904), upon the commission's recommendation, a River Improvement Commission was transferred to the Water Supply Commission that had been established in 1905 (Ch. 723) to administer a systematic plan for maintaining water supplies for the state's municipalities.

This commission was headed by five gubernatorial appointees. The functions and powers of the Water Supply Commission, Forest Preserve Board, and Forest, Fish and Game Commission were combined to form the Conservation Commission in 1911 (Ch. 647).

In 1921 a Water Power Commission, consisting of the three Conservation Commissioners, the State Engineer and Surveyor, the Attorney General, the temporary President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the Assembly, was established to issue licenses for the development of state water power resources. A Water Control Commission consisting of the State Engineer and Surveyor, Conservation Commissioners, and Attorney General, was also established in 1921 to supervise water flow and supply. The Water Control Commission had administrative responsibility over the Black River and the Hudson River Regulating Districts which had been established in 1915, with authority to control water drainage and storage and to lease water power sites to private companies in their respective districts.

After the 1925 constitutional reorganization of state government, enabling legislation of 1926 (Ch. 619) established the Conservation Department, headed by a commissioner, which assumed the functions and duties of the Conservation Commission, Water Control Commission, and Water Power Commission, all of which were abolished. The new Department included a Division of Parks, headed by a Council of Parks of which the Conservation Commissioner was chairman. The Council consisted of representatives of the boards, trustees, or commissioners of each of the state's parks, reservations, historic sites, and recreational areas (except the forest preserve) which had been established between 1885 and 1925. Between 1944 and 1966 supervision of historic sites was transferred to the Education Department, but the responsibility was returned to the Conservation Department in the latter year.

When the Department of Environmental Conservation was established in 1970, it was given all the functions of the Conservation Department except administration of state parks which was assigned to a new Office of Parks and Recreation created in the Executive Department. The new department also assumed primary responsibility for state policy relating to air and water pollution, waste management, and pesticide use; areas formerly supervised by the Departments of Health and Agriculture and Markets. At the same time, the law abolished the Air Pollution Control Board and the Pesticide Control Board in the Department of Health and the Natural Beauty

Commission within the Office for Local Government in the Executive Department.

The law also created a State Environmental Board and a Council of Environmental Advisors within the department. The fifteen-member Environmental Board, consisting of the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation as chairman, representatives of the departments of Health, Agriculture and Markets, Commerce, Public Service, Transportation, Labor, and the offices of Parks and Recreation and Local Government, and six members appointed by the Governor, was empowered to advise the Environmental Conservation Commissioner and to approve all standards, rules, and regulations promulgated by the department. The Council of Environmental Advisors, consisting of seven private citizens appointed by the Governor, was mandated to provide special advice to the Governor on environmental policy matters.

The Department of Environmental Conservation administers a broad range of programs for protecting and enhancing use of the environment, including: preventing and abating water, land, and air pollution; managing fish and wildlife resources; regulating mining; and monitoring and reporting on environmental conditions. The commissioner of the department is also ex officio member and chairman of the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, established in 1970 as a public benefit corporation to assist state agencies and local governments in environmental management projects and to provide financing for pollution control facilities.

See also: Adirondack Park Agency and Office of Parks and Recreation.

Records

Executive Office

Correspondence and Subject Files of the Commissioner's Office. 1958-1976. 203 cf.

Department Orders. 1952-1969. 5 cf.

Conservation Commission

Assessment Rolls of Towns in Which the State Owns Land. 1886-1921. 55 cf.

Division of Water

Statewide Wastewater Disposal Files. 1900-1975. 177 cf.

Federal and State Institution Wastewater Disposal Files. 1900-1975. 5 cf.

State Campsite Wastewater Disposal Files. 1935-1976. 2 cf.

Drainage Basin Subject Files. 1949-1975. 34 cf.

Interstate Drainage Basin Subject Files. 1950-1975. 18 cf.

Interstate Water Quality Standards Files. 1963-1967. 1 cf.

Pure Waters Sewage Reports. 1957-1975. 2 cf.

Division of Fish and Wildlife

Freshwater Wetland Inventory Maps. 1973-1975. 971 maps. R.

Department of Health

During the colonial period public health measures consisted largely of port quarantines to control epidemics. After the Revolution, in 1784, the Legislature re-established quarantine regulations and created the position of health officer of the port of New York to enforce these regulations. Public health laws during the ensuing years dealt primarily with the problems of New York City until after the cholera epidemics of 1832 and 1835 when the Legislature required all port cities and villages (including those along the canal) to appoint health officers and establish health boards.

In 1850 a general public health law required all towns, villages, and cities (except New York and Brooklyn) to set up health boards and designate health officers, and to regulate local sanitary conditions and to provide for the prevention and control of contagious diseases. A State Board of Health, consisting of the health officer of the port of New York, the Attorney General, the Superintendent of the Census, and three local health commissioners (including one from New York City,) was created in 1880 (Ch. 322) to coordinate the existing public health system. The Board was directed to "take cognizance of the interests of health and life among the people of the state...(and) to obtain, collect, and preserve such information relating to death, diseases, and health as may be useful in the discharge of its duties." The Board was also ordered to institute and supervise a state system of registration of births, deaths and marriages. The responsibilities, powers, and duties of municipal health boards and officers were expanded and recodified in an 1885 law which superseded the 1850 general health law. Specific provision was made in the new law for the forwarding of vital statistics registrations to the state Board.

In 1901 (Ch. 24) the State Board of Health was replaced by a Department of Health headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor. The commissioner was empowered to review local government health regulations and to investigate sanitation problems. A Public Health Council consisting of the Commissioner of Health and six gubernatorial appointees, was created in 1913 (Ch. 559). The council was given power to establish rules and regulations known as the sanitary code, concerning "any matter affecting the security of life or health or the preservation and improvement of public health in the State."

The Department of Health was continued following the 1925 reorganization of state government, with the addition of jurisdiction over the Institute for the Study of Malignant Diseases (later renamed Roswell Park Memorial Institute) which had been established in 1911 for the study and treatment of cancer and allied diseases (Ch. 349, L. 1926). Five years later the department assumed from the Department of Social Welfare supervision of the Raybrook Hospital for Treatment of Incipient Pulmonary Tuberculosis (established in 1900 and closed in 1970), and of the Orthopedic Hospital for Children at West Haverstraw (established in 1900, and now known as the Helen Hayes Hospital). Other institutions operated by the Department of Health are the Burns Care Institute (established 1970), Birth Defects Institute (1966), and Kidney Disease Institute (1965), all located in Albany, and the Veterans' Home at Oxford (formerly called the Women's Relief Corp Home) which was transferred to the Department from Social Services in 1971.

In 1960 a State Hospital Review and Planning Council, consisting of thirty-one members appointed by the Governor, was established to cooperate with regional hospital councils in reviewing applications for the construction of new hospital facilities and insuring that hospital services are adequate in all areas of the state. This council makes reports and recommendations to the Commissioner of Health, the Public Health Council, and the Health Planning Commission. The latter is an interdepartmental body that was created by executive order in 1975 to advise the Governor on health policy matters.

When the Department of Environmental Conservation was created in 1970, it assumed from the Department of Health primary responsibility for monitoring and regulating water and air pollution and waste management. However the Department of Health continues to administer the public health law and the state sanitary code, regulate all health care facilities, supervise all local health units, administer state aid to local health agencies, and oversee the distribution of federal funds alloted for health work in New York. In 1977, the Department was reorganized into two major offices—the Office of Health Systems Management and the Office of Public Health. The former office was assigned all regulatory activities of the Department involving the delivery of health care by institutions and individual providers, including reimbursement rate-setting and the development and enforcement of health care standards. The Office of Public Health assumed responsibility for all traditional public health activities including research, disease control and coordination of local public health activities.

Records

State Board of Health

Minutes of State Board of Health. 1880-1899. 3 vols.

Transactions of State Board of Health. 1880-1882. 1 vol.

General Accounts of State Board of Health. 1885-1897. 3 vols.

Special Accounts of State Board of Health. 1892-1893. 1 vol.

Public Analysis Accounts of State Board of Health. 1881-1892. 1 vol.

Appropriations. 1920-1939. 1 vol. and .5 cf.

Requisitions of State Board of Health. 1880-1886. 1 vol.

New York State in Account with the Board of Health. 1880-1886. 1 vol.

Annual Reports. 1894-1905. 10 vols.

Office of Fiscal Management

Financial Journals. 1901-1926. 21 vols.

Financial Ledgers. 1906-1921. 8 vols.

Account Book. 1914. 1 vol.

Salaries of Personnel During Influenza Epidemic. 1920. 1 vol.

Payroll Ledgers. 1920-1933. 2 vols.

Journals of Health Department Personnel and Operating Costs. 1919-1920. 2 vols.

Budget of Estimated Expenditures. 1922-1924. 1 vol.

Cash Receipts Received. 1923-1931. 1 vol.

Record of Transfer of Funds to Audit Bureau. 1931-1935. 1 vol.

Journal of Cash Receipts and County Charges. 1934-1935. 1 vol.

Bureau of Hospital Certification

Hospital Certification Case Files. 1966-1973. 16 cf.

Hospital Code Files. 1966-1973. 3 cf.

Veteran's Home at Oxford

Admission Case Files. 1897-1963. 57 cf. R.

Raybrook State Tuberculosis Hospital

Application Book of Patients. 1932-1942. 2 vols. R.

Health Planning Commission

Subject Files of the Commission Chairman and Executive Director 1975-1976. 5 cf.

Dental clinics at public schools epitomized increasing government concern for the health of its citizens in the early twentieth century.

Insurance Department

Prior to 1849, insurance companies doing business in New York were chartered by special acts of the Legislature. A law passed that year (Ch. 308, L. 1849) required prospective insurance companies to file incorporation papers with the Secretary of State. The law also vested regulatory power over insurance companies with the Comptroller who was authorized to require the companies to submit annual financial statements and to deny a company the right to operate if capital securities and investments did not remain secure.

The Insurance Department, headed by a Superintendent appointed by the Governor, was created in 1859 (Ch. 366) and assumed the functions of the Comptroller and Secretary of State relating to insurance. The agency was continued unchanged after the 1925 constitutional reorganization of state government (Ch. 353, L. 1926).

The Department supervises all aspects of insurance business in the state. It sets standards, issues licenses, approves corporate reorganizations, mergers, and consolidations, investigates financial conditions and underwriting practices, regulates rates, and handles policyholder complaints. It is empowered to investigate and discipline licensees who violate the insurance laws or regulations. All bail bondsmen, insurance agents, brokers, and adjusters are also licensed by the Department.

Records

Office of the Superintendent

Rulings, Opinions, Decisions, and Reports. 1867-1951. 1.5 cf.

Statistical Bureau

Annual Statements of Insurance Companies. 1866-1963. 640 cf.

Department of Labor

State labor policy began in 1883 (Ch. 356) when the Bureau of Labor Statistics was created to gather information and prepare an annual statistical report on the state's labor force. The state began regulatory activity in labor and industrial affairs in 1886 (Ch. 409) with the establishment of the Office of Factory Inspector (expanded to the Department of Factory Inspection in 1887) to enforce laws regulating the employment of children in factories, and the Board of Mediation and Arbitration to assist in the settlement of labor disputes.

In 1901 (Ch. 9), these three units were combined to form the Department of Labor, headed by a commissioner. Two new divisions—the Bureau of Mercantile Inspection and the Bureau of Industries and Immigration—were added to the Department in 1909.

The office of State Fire Marshal was established in 1911 (Ch. 451). The State Fire Marshal was appointed by the Governor for a five-year term, and his duties were to enforce laws relating to prevention of fires, use of combustibles and explosives, availability of fire alarms and fire extinguishers; inspect steam boilers; regulate fire escapes; and investigate causes of fires.

In 1913 (Ch. 145), the Industrial Board, consisting of the Commissioner of Labor as chairman and four gubernatorial appointees, was created within the Department of Labor to issue and interpret rules and regulations known as "Industrial Code Rules." These Rules established standards for the health and safety of employees. Meanwhile, another 1913 law created an independent Workmen's Compensation Commission to ensure payment of compensation to disabled employees and set up the State Insurance Fund, administered by the Commission, to insure employers against liability.

As a result of a reorganization of the Department of Labor in 1915 (Ch. 674), the Commissioner of Labor was replaced by a five-member Industrial Commission, appointed by the Governor. The commission headed the department and assumed responsibilities formerly exercised by the Industrial Board, the Workmen's Compensation Commission, and the office of State Fire Marshal which were abolished. The Industrial Commission was also directed to administer the State Insurance Fund. In addition, an Industrial Council composed of ten members appointed by the Governor was created to provide advice to the Industrial Commission.

Another reorganization in 1921 (Ch. 50) replaced the Industrial Commission with a single Industrial Commissioner and established a three-member Industrial Board to issue, amend, and interpret the "Industrial Code Rules" and to review and determine claims in workmen's compensation cases.

Several laws of 1937 changed the administrative structure of the department. A newly established Board of Standards and Appeals assumed the functions of the Industrial Board in regard to "industrial code" matters, and the Industrial Board became concerned exclusively with workmen's compensation matters. A Labor Relations Board and a State Board of Mediation were set up to supervise labor-management relations and to mediate settlements in labor disputes, respectively.

In 1938 the State Insurance Fund was removed from the direct administrative jurisdiction of the Industrial Commissioner, who continued to serve as an ex officio member of the newly created Board of Commissioners of the State Insurance Fund. An Unemployment Insurance Appeal Board was established in 1944 to hear appeals from claimants or employers dissatisfied with departmental administrative determinations under the unemployment insurance programs mandated by 1935 and subsequent legislation.

In 1945 the Industrial Board was replaced by a ten-member Workmen's Compensation Board, which was renamed the Workers' Compensation Board in 1971. The Board of Standards and Appeals was renamed the Industrial Board of Appeals in 1971.

The department currently formulates and executes the labor policy of the state. It enforces state laws and regulations promoting health and safety on the job, insures full payment of wages, operates a comprehensive employment service, supervises job-training programs, and provides benefits to unemployed and disabled workers.

Records

State Fire Marshal

Inspectors' Reports on Investigations. 1911-1914. .5 cf.

Inspectors' Weekly Summaries. 1914. .5 cf.

Register of Inspections, no violations found. 1912-1913. 1 vol.

Incoming Correspondence from Inspectors. 1912. .5 cf.

Incoming Correspondence identifying Persons Convicted and Suspected of Arson. 1913. .5 cf.

Special Book for Violations (agency title). 1912-1913. 1 vol.

Register of Complaints. 1912-1913. 1 vol.

Register of Inspections Received. 1912-1913. 1 vol.

Register of Correspondence. n.d. 1 vol.

Register of Correspondence Received. 1913-1914. 2 vol.

Index to Record of Violations. 1911-1912. 1 vol.

Register of Fires Investigated (Suspicious Origin). 1912-1914. 1 vol.

Index to Register of Fires of Suspicious Origin. 1912-1913. 1 vol.

Register of Fires Investigated. 1911-1912. 1 vol.

Register of Plans and Specifications Approved. 1912-1913. 1 vol.

Lists of Members of Various Fire Companies. ca. 1912-1915. .5 cf.

Appropriations Ledger. 1912-1915. 1 vol.

Analysis of Expenditures. 1911-1913. 1 vol.

Bank Account Book for State Fire Marshal Magazine. 1912-1914. .5 cf.

Bank Account Book for State Fire Marshal Boiler Fund. 1912. .5 cf.

Cash Book. 1911-1913. 1 vol.

Check Book for Magazine Account. 1912-1913. 1 vol.

Check Book for Boiler Account. 1913-1915. 1 vol.

Travel Expense Accounts. 1911-1912. 1 vol.

Statements of Expenditures filed by Local Investigators. 1912-1915. 2 cf.

Bills for Expenditures. 1912-1913. .5 cf.

Accounts in Connection with Fires Reported. 1911-1912. 1 vol.

Accounts of "Current" Expenses. 1912-1914. 2 vol.

Workers' Compensation Board

State Insurance Fund

A State Insurance Fund and a Workmen's Compensation Commission were established under the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1913 (Ch. 816) which required employers to compensate employees who were disabled by industrial accidents or occupational diseases. A similar law had been passed in 1910, but was declared unconstitutional by the Court of Appeals the following year. The 1913 statute was enacted after a constitutional amendment specifically set aside any constitutional limit on the law.

Employers subject to the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act were required to establish a self-insurance program or to provide disability insurance through a commercial carrier or to contribute to the State Insurance Fund that was set up by the state to insure contributing employers against liability. The Workmen's Compensation Commission, consisting of five gubernatorial appointees and the Commissioner of Labor, administered the law, including collection, maintenance, and distribution of the fund. Originally, the Workmen's Compensation Act mandated that the state arbitrate settlement of claims between employer and employee, but amending legislation approved later in 1914 permitted direct settlement without state intervention. Another amendment to the act in 1919 restored the original state-supervised settlement process.

Meanwhile, as part of the 1915 reorganization of the Department of Labor, a five-man Industrial Commission replaced the Commissioner of Labor and also assumed all responsibilities of the Workmen's Compensation Commission, which was abolished. Upon the subsequent reorganization of the Department of Labor in 1921, the Industrial Commission was abolished, an Industrial Commissioner became responsible for the administration of the State Insurance Fund, and a three-person Industrial Board reviewed all compensation cases. A 1922 law established a nine-person employer advisory committee to advise the Commissioner on administration of the fund.

In 1938 (Ch. 585) the advisory committee was abolished and the present Board of Commissioners of the State Insurance Fund was created to administer the fund. This board consists of eight employer representatives appointed by the Governor and the Industrial Commissioner as an ex officio member.

In 1945, responsibility for review of workers' compensation cases was transferred from the Industrial Board to a Workmen's Compensation Board (renamed the Workers' Compensation Board in 1971) located within the Department of Labor. The Board consists of thirteen members appointed by the Governor.

Pursuant to the Disability Benefits Law of 1949, the State Insurance Fund was authorized to insure benefits to employees for nonoccupational disabilities, and, under the Volunteer Firemen's Benefit Law of 1957, to insure benefits to volunteer firemen. The State Insurance Fund is self-supporting from premiums and investment income. Investment limits are prescribed by law, and the fund is subject to examination by the state Insurance Department.

Records

State Insurance Fund Actuarial Division

Aggregate Trust Fund Deposit Lists. 1948-1969. 5 vols.

Department of Law

This department traces its origins to the Dutch colonial office of schout-fiscal, which combined the functions of auditor, sheriff, and attorney general. Later, British colonial authorities appointed an attorney general as chief law enforcement officer of the colony of New York. After the Revolution, the first state constitution of 1777 created the office of Attorney General, to be selected by the Council of Appointment. The constitution of 1821 transferred this appointment function to the Legislature, and the constitution of 1846 made the office elective on a biennial basis. A 1937 constitutional amendment extended the term of elective office to four years.

The reorganization of state government in 1925 authorized creation of a Department of Law. Enabling legislation in 1926 (Ch. 347) established the new department, transferred to it all powers previously exercised by the Attorney General, and made the Attorney General chief administrative officer of the new department.

The Department of Law serves as the legal agent of the State. It prosecutes criminal violations of the Labor Law, Workmen's Compensation Law, Unemployment Insurance Law, Conservation Law, and provisions of the Education Law governing the conduct of the professions, except the legal profession. It also prosecutes cases of fraudulent sales of stocks and securities and violations of provisions of the General Business Law prohibiting monopolies in restraint of trade. The Department is also empowered to prosecute for perjury committed during its investigations and has investigatory powers relating to the unlawful practice of law.

Records

Attorney General's Office

Correspondence and Legal Documentation Relating to Land Sales. 1770-1906. 37 cf.

Account Book from the Attorney General's office. 1824-1861. 1 vol.

Account book of costs in cases concerning the people of the State of New York. 1828-1840. 1 vol.

Statement of Interest Due on Mortgages. 1848. 1 vol.

Canal Fund Daybook. 1854-1855. 1 vol.

Transcripts of Hearings relating to the Investigation of James Eaton, Superintendent of the Capitol. ca. 1876. 1 cf.

Transcripts of Hearings for the Case of the People of New York vs. Henry D. Denison, et al. relating to Work on the Erie Canal. ca. 1880. 3 cf.

Register of Cases Brought Before the Attorney General. 1883-1891. 13 vols.

Daily Journals from the Office of the Attorney General. 1883-1891. 13 vols.

Index to Office Registers. 1884. 1 vol.

Register Containing Abstracts of Legal Matters. ca. 1885. 1 vol.

Report by the Special Deputy Attorney Appointed to Investigate the Murders of Charles Phelps and Margaret Wolcott. 1917. .5 cf.

Photographs of the Alfred E. Smith State Office Building Submitted as Evidence in the Case of Seglin Construction Company, et al. vs. New York. 1927-1928. .5 cf.

Department of Mental Hygiene

During colonial and early statehood years, local poorhouses and jails were the only government institutions for housing and supervising the mentally ill. Many counties established insane asylums during the first half of the nineteenth century, and in 1834 New York City opened a municipal Lunatic Asylum at Blackwell's Island.

State government concern for care of the mentally ill dates from 1807 when the Legislature committed an annual grant for the next fifty years to help erect and maintain a building to care for insane persons at the private New York Hospital. In 1836 the Legislature authorized construction of a State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, which opened in 1843. This was the first charitable institution of any kind operated by the state. The Utica facility, along with nine other state asylums built during the next forty-five years, provided care for the insane, but the cost of care was charged to the patients' home county. Each state asylum was administered by a superintendent.

The Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities, established in 1867, annually visited, inspected and reported to the Legislature on state mental institutions as part of its responsibility for overseeing all publicly funded charitable and custodial institutions. When this board was reorganized as the State Board of Charities in 1873 (Ch. 571), it was given an additional mandate to license both public and private institutions for care of the mentally ill. To carry out this function, the law created an Office of State Commissioner in Lunacy, responsible to and an ex officio member of the Board. This office was abolished in 1889 (Ch. 283) and replaced by an independent State Commission in Lunacy consisting of three gubernatorial appointees. The Commission continued to license institutions for the mentally handicapped. The 1894 constitution provided for a separate commission to visit and inspect institutions "used for the care and treatment of the insane," and this function was transferred from the Board of Charities to the Commission in Lunacy.

A landmark law, passed in 1890 (Ch. 126) provided for care of all indigent mentally ill in state hospitals at state expense, and prohibited their confinement in jails and poorhouses. When the State Commission in Lunacy was renamed the State Hospital Commission in 1912 (Ch. 121), it was given additional responsibility for centralized administration of state mental health hospitals, which by then numbered fourteen.

In 1918 (Ch. 197) state supervision of care for the mentally handicapped was further centralized with the creation of the State Commission on Feeble-Minded, consisting of a chairperson appointed by the Governor, and the Fiscal Supervisor and the Secretary of the State Board of Charities. Renamed the State Commission for Mental Defectives in 1919 (Ch. 633), it supervised the custody, care, and treatment of "mentally defective" persons at five special-care institutions: Letchworth Village, Craig Colony, and three State Schools for Mental Defectives.

Following the 1925 constitutional reorganization of state government, a Department of Mental Hygiene was established in 1926 (Ch. 584). The new Department, headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor, took over all functions of the State Hospital Commission and the State Commission for Mental Defectives, which were abolished. The organization and functions of the Department remained essentially the same until 1966 (Ch. 192) when a Narcotic Addiction Control Commission, consisting of five members appointed by the Governor, was established as an autonomous agency within the Department. This Commission, which was renamed the Drug Abuse Control Commission in 1973 (Ch. 676), supervised the operation of alcohol and narcotics addiction treatment centers and coordinated community rehabilitation and prevention programs. Two years later (Ch. 667, L. 1975) the Commission was replaced by the Office of Drug Abuse Services, still within the Department of Mental Hygiene but headed by a separate commissioner appointed by the Governor.

In 1977 (Ch. 978) the Department was reorganized into three autonomous offices: the Office of Mental Health, the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, and the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, each empowered to function independently under a separate commissioner. The reorganization law also divided the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse into three autonomous units: the Division of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse, the Division of Substance Abuse Services, and the Commission on Alcoholism Abuse Prevention and Education.

Several mechanisms were created to coordinate the restructured Department. An Inter-Office Coordinating Council has responsibility for coordinating the care of the multiply disabled, coordinating department research efforts, and assisting the administration of local assistance programs. The Council for Mental Hygiene Planning formulates statewide goals and objectives for the care and treatment of the mentally disabled. Advisory councils, established by each office and division, review any matter related to their specific program. A separate Commission on Quality of Care for the Mentally Disabled, located within the Executive Department, functions as an independent overseer of institutions and an advocate of standards for the care of the mentally disabled.

The Department of Mental Hygiene currently administers forty-three state operated residential facilities and hundreds of state-supported community health programs throughout the state.

See also: Department of Social Services and Board of Social Welfare.

Records

Public Relations Office

Research Files for a Department History. 1940-1948. 6 cf.

Department of Motor Vehicles

State regulation of motor vehicles began in 1901 with a law requiring owners of motor vehicles to secure registration certificates from the Secretary of State. Two years later a law was passed requiring licenses for drivers. The Secretary of State exercised the registration and licensing functions until 1921 (Ch. 90), when they were transferred to the State Tax Department.

In 1926 (Ch. 553), following the constitutional reorganization of state government, registration and licensing functions were assigned to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Taxation and Finance. A State Traffic Commission, composed of the head of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, chief engineer of the Department of Public Works Highway Division, and the Superintendent of State Police, was created in 1936 (Ch. 910, 919) and attached to the Department of Taxation and Finance. The Commission surveyed traffic conditions, planned and coordinated safety programs, advised local governments, and promulgated rules and regulations for traffic control.

In 1959 a constitutional amendment authorized the establishment of a Department of Motor Vehicles, and enabling legislation passed the following year (Ch. 464, L. 1960), abolished the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Taxation and Finance and transferred its functions to the new department. The State Traffic Commission, which now included the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, was also transferred to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Subsequently, in 1967, this commission was abolished and its functions transferred to the Department of Transportation. By an executive order of 1967 an Interdepartmental Traffic Safety Committee was created and attached to the Department of Motor Vehicles. The committee approves and coordinates highway safety programs of state and local agencies.

The Department of Motor Vehicles registers all motor vehicles covered by statute; examines and licenses all motor vehicle operators, motor vehicle dealsers, and deriver schools; collects fees for such registrations and licenses; and requires motor vehicle operators to carry adequate insurance. County clerks in all counties except Albany, New York, Kings, Queens, Bronx, and Richmond act as registration and license issuing agents for the department on a statutory fee basis.

Although the department administers the vehicle and traffic law, state and local police carry out actual enforcement of the law.

No Records in State Archives

Oblivious to the onset of the automobile age, wagons travel a muddy road near Albany in 1920.

Department of Public Service

State regulation of public utilities dates from the early nineteenth century, when the Legislature began including financial and service requirements in incorporation statutes. More systematic oversight began with an 1843 Assembly resolution requiring railroads to submit reports of the Secretary of State. Five years later (Ch. 140, L. 1848) tbe railroads were required to report instead to the state engineer and surveyor on financial affairs, equipment, and passengers and freight carried. A Railroad Commission was established in 1855 (Ch. 526) to receive reports and investigate railroad operation, but this commission was abolished two years later, and the railroads resumed reporting to the engineer and surveyor. In 1882 (Ch. 353) a Board of Railroad Commissioners was created with power to require reports, investigate complaints, and recommend service improvements and rate adjustments, but without any enforcement power. Nine years later (Ch. 4, L. 1891) the state recognized New York City's special transportation needs by establishing a Board of Rapid Transit Commissioners to oversee the expansion of surface rapid transit facilities and plan the construction of subways. Turning to other utilities, the Legislature established the office of Inspector of Gas Meters to inspect and seal meters (Ch. 311, L. of 1859) and, later, a Commission of Gas and Electricity to regulate rates (Ch. 737, L. of 1905).

In 1907 (Ch. 424), Governor Charles Evans Hughes proposed systematic, comprehensive statewide public utility regulation and convinced the Legislature to pass the Public Service Commissions Law. This statute replaced existing state regulatory authorities with two district Public Service Commissions (one for New York City and the other for the remainder of the state) with sweeping powers to investigate complaints, order improved service, establish rates, and supervise the issue of securities. The first district (New York City) commission also inherited the powers of the Rapid Transit Commission to plan and construct subways.

During the following decade, PSC supervisory responsibilities were expanded to include telephone and telegraph, steam companies, water carriers, and bus lines. A series of 1930 statutes increased its regulatory powers over holding companies and utility financial transactions. Organizational changes were also made over the years. In 1919 (Ch. 263 and Ch. 520), the first district commission was replaced by a single Public Service Commissioner to carry out regulatory functions and a Transit Construction Commissioner to carry out subway construction. Two years later (Ch. 134, L. of 1921) the two public service districts were abolished and replaced by a single Public Service Commission with statewide authority over all public utilities except rapid transit in New York City, which was placed under a new Transit Commission. In 1924 (Ch. 573), a Board of Transportation was established to continue subway construction and to operate existing city subways and surface rapid transit lines, leaving the Transit Commission with supervisory authority over only private transit facilities.

When the constitutional reorganization of state government was implemented in 1926 (Ch. 350), the Department of Public Service was created; it took over the Transit Commission and the Public Service Commission. Later (Ch. 170, L. of 1943), the Transit Commission was abolished and the Public Service Commission assumed its duties. All Department of Public Service transportation regulatory functions were transferred to the Department of Transportation in 1970 (Ch. 267).

Today, the Department of Public Service — headed by a seven-member commission appointed by the Governor, one of whom is designated chairman— has broad regulatory responsibilities over the services and rates of gas, electric, steam, telephone, telegraph, and radio-telephone corporations. It is also responsible for the location of major steam electric generating facilities and major gas and electric transmission lines, and for the safety of natural gas facilities and liquid petroleum pipelines.

Records

Projected Railroad Center Line (Right of Way) Maps. 1846-1936. 130 cf.

Contract Drawings of the First District Public Service Commission for New York City Subways. 1907-1908. 2 cf.

Department of Social Services

The earliest state social welfare laws, beginning with the "poor laws" of 1784 and 1788, placed the responsibility for supervision of the poor and indigent with town and city governments. Following a historic survey and report on municipal poor relief administration carried out by Secretary of State J.V.N. Yates in 1824, a law was enacted providing for the establishment of county poorhouses in an effort to correct inadequacies in the system. In 1847 (Ch. 195) the increasing cost of public support to destitute and sick immigrants resulted in the establishment of the State Board of Commissioners of Emigration charged with the responsibility of reimbursing local communities for relief granted to certain categories of immigrants. The Board established a central landing depot for arriving immigrants at Manhattan in 1855. Under a congressional act of 1882 regulating immigration the board was empowered to deport "any convict, lunatic, idiot, or any person unable to take care of himself or herself without becoming a public charge." The Board of Commissioners of Emigration functioned until 1891, when it was superseded by federal immigration authorities, who opened Ellis Island as the central immigrant depot under federal supervision in 1892.

In the meantime, a number of private philanthropic organizations established institutions for specific categories of the poor, such as orphanages and reformatories to care for dependent children. Institutions such as the House of Refuge, opened in New York City in 1824 and operated by the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, were supported mainly by state funds. One such institution, the Western House of Refuge (later renamed the State Agricultural and Industrial School) was built and maintained by the state in 1846. In 1875 the state assumed administrative responsibility for the Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children which had been established by private funds in 1855. In addition, the state built and administered institutions for the mentally and physically handicapped, including the Utica (1843), Willard (1865), and Hudson River (1871) Lunatic Asylums, the Asylum for Idiots at Syracuse (1851), and the State School for the Blind at Batavia (1865). During the Civil War the Legislature appropriated funds to care for sick and wounded discharged soldiers. A privately operated Soldiers' Home founded at Bath in 1876 passed to state control as the Sailors and Soldiers Home in 1878. (In 1929 the home was taken over by the federal government.)

The origins of the Department of Social Services can be traced to an 1867 law (Ch. 951) that established the Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities. The board, consisting of one gubernatorial appointee from each of the state's eight judicial districts, was directed to annually visit and inspect all charitable and custodial institutions (except prisons) receiving state aid and to visit and inspect local public almshouses every two years. The board advised the Legislature on making appropriations to public and private charitable institutions, and was the first state supervisory body to coordinate public welfare programs.

An 1873 law (Ch. 571) changed the name of the Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities to the State Board of Charities, and extended its power of inspection to all charitable and eleemosynary institutions whether or not they received state aid. An office of State Commissioner in Lunacy, responsible to the board, had jurisdiction over all mental institutions, which were required by the law to obtain a license from the Board. The office of State Commissioner in Lunacy was abolished and an independent Lunacy Commission was established in 1889. This commission was the forerunner of the Department of Mental Hygiene, although the State Board of Charities continued to carry out inspection and visitation duties at mental institutions until 1894.

The State Board of Charities was made a constitutional body by Article VIII of the 1894 constitution. The State Charities Act of 1896 (Ch. 546) empowered the board to approve or disapprove the organization or incorporation of agencies and institutions, to establish rules for the retention of inmates, and to investigate the condition of the poor and recommend legislative measures for their relief. The so-called "Poor Law" of 1896 (Ch. 225) directed county and other local poor law officials to report annually to the board and gave the board power to require correction of improper practices at a public almshouse. An 1899 Court of Appeals decision limited the visitation and inspection authority of the Board to institutions supported in whole or in part by funds from the state or any of its political subdivisions.

Following the 1925 constitutional reorganization of the executive branch of state government, the Department of Charities, headed by the State Board of Charities, was established (Ch. 651, L. 1926). Administrative control of six state institutions—the State Agricultural and Industrial School at Industry, the State Training School for Girls at Hudson, the State Reconstruction Home at West Haverstraw, the State Women's Relief Corps Home at Oxford, the State Hospital at

Raybrook, and the Thomas Indian School at Iroquois—were transferred from local boards of managers to the new department. (The Reconstruction Home and State Hospital were subsequently transferred to the Department of Health in 1931.) The State Commission for the Blind, originally established in 1913, became a bureau of the new department, and the duties of the Commissioner of Education relating to Indian affairs (except the education of children on reservations) were also transferred to the Department of Charities.

A series of public welfare laws in 1929 changed the name of the department to the Department of Social Welfare, headed by a Board of Social Welfare. The change of name reflected the importance of the laws, which superseded the antiquated "poor law" and repealed approximately 140 special laws dealing with local poor relief. The new law emphasized the concept of home relief rather than institutionalization as the fundamental basis of welfare administration. Each county and five cities were designated as public welfare districts presided over by a district commissioner of public welfare.

An act of 1936 (Ch. 873) amended the Public Welfare Law to provide for a permanent system of state aid for public relief. A reconstituted State Board of Social Welfare, consisting of fifteen members, was established with the power to name a Commissioner of Social Welfare. A constitutional amendment of 1938 mandated that "the aid, care and support of the needy are public concerns and shall be provided by the state and by such of its subdivisions, and in such manner and by such means, as the legislature may from time to time determine." The amendment also continued the Board of Social Welfare, with expanded powers to promulgate rules and regulations concerning the health, safety, and treatment of clients at institutions that did not receive public funds.

In 1967 (Ch. 728) the Department of Social Welfare was renamed the Department of Social Services. Four years later (Ch. 110, L. 1971) the Board of Social Welfare was transferred from the Department of Social Services to the Executive Department. The rule-making authority of the board relating to the administration of public assistance was transferred to the Commissioner of Social Services, who was now appointed by the Governor. The board continued to exercise its constitutional functions relating to visitation, inspection and the setting of standards for public and private agencies. The law also effected transfer of all training schools and facilities for juveniles to the Division for Youth in the Executive Department, and transferred administration of the Women's Relief Corps Home (renamed Veteran's Home) to the Department of Health.

The Commissioner of Social Services determines the policies and principles upon which public assistance, services, and care are provided, exercises general supervision over the social services programs administered by the local social service districts, promulgates regulations for the administration of public assistance and care, and enforces the regulations and laws relating to public assistance and care.

The department is empowered to distribute, reimburse, and grant to localities funds for social service programs as appropriated by the Legislature or allocated to the state by the federal government. Its principal programs provide income maintenance, medical assistance, and other social services for those in need through a wide variety of locally administered programs including food stamps, medicaid, aid to families with dependent children, and home relief. Its responsibilities include periodic inspections, audits, reviews, and studies of the activities of local agencies that serve the handicapped, the aged, children, and other disadvantaged groups and individuals.

See also: Department of Mental Hygiene and Board of Social Welfare.

Records

Office of Audit and Quality Control

Working Files for the Income Maintenance Separation System.1967-1972. 7 cf.

Department of State

The office of Secretary of State was established by the constitution of 1777, which specified that the secretary be chosen by the Council of Appointment. The 1821 constitution vested power to appoint the secretary with the Legislature, and the 1846 constitution made the office elective. As a result of the state government reorganization that followed the constitutional amendment of 1925, the Department of State was established and the Secretary of State named its head (Ch. 437, L. 1926). By a constitutional amendment of 1927, the secretary is appointed by the Governor with the consent of the senate.

Although the office of Secretary of State was established by the 1777 constitution, the duties and authority of the office were not defined in that document or by statute. The office was apparently inherited from the colonial period during which the secretary of the Province of New Netherland and the secretary of the Colony of New York acted as clerks to the Governor's council and maintained the records of the colonial governments.

These colonial records were transferred to the custody of the first Secretary of State, appointed in 1778. Since then the office has remained responsible for the filing and care of records that form the basic legal foundation of state government. These include state constitutions, original laws, titles and deeds to state-owned land, oaths of office, and other records vital to state government administration. Frequently, laws that established an administrative function in some other government agency specified that records created as a result be filed with the Secretary of State. In 1809, the Secretary was named custodian of the great seal of New York and all records filed or copies of records authorized under the seal. A section of an 1892 law (Ch. 683) that codified the executive law specified that "the secretary of state shall have the custody of all laws and concurrent resolutions of the legislature, all documents issued under the great seal, all books, records, deeds, parchments, maps, and papers deposited or kept in his office, and shall properly arrange and preserve them."

As government activities and services have expanded, many other functions have been assigned to the Secretary of State's office in connection with its record-keeping activity. Frequently, recording duties were also accompanied by broader regulatory and licensing responsibilities.

Presently, the diverse statutory functions of the Department of State include recording executive proclamations, commissions, pardons and commutations received from the Governor; filing certificates of incorporation other than those for banking, insurance, and education; authorizing foreign corporations to do business in the state; administering oaths of office; appointing notaries public and commissioners of deeds in other states and territories; filing financing statements under the Uniform Commercial Code; registering charitable organizations; supervising the administration of cemetery corporations; registering trademarks and service marks; registering hotel and motel names; registering and regulating trading stamp companies and games of chance utilized in promoting retail sales; filing statements and regulating offers to sell subdivided lands; investigating fraudulent real estate practices; licensing and regulating real estate brokers, motor vehicle manufacturers, barbers, cosmetologists and hairdressers, billiard rooms, guard and patrol agencies, private investigators, steamship ticket agents, hearing aid dealers, and the manufacture and sale of articles of bedding and upholstered furniture.

As an extension of record-keeping duties the department publishes the state laws; the official compilation of codes, rules, and regulations of the state of New York; the legislative manual; abstracts and form of submission of proposed amendments; and the State Register, the official state publication announcing proposed administrative regulations.

In addition to record-related activities, the Secretary of State was designated by laws as a Commissioner of the Land Office from 1784 to 1960; member of the Canal Board from 1836 to 1926; Commissioner of the Canal Fund from 1827 to 1926; member of the Board of State Canvassers from 1827 to 1926; and Superintendent of Common Schools from 1828 to 1854. Upon the establishment of the Department of State in 1926, the agency was assigned as the administrative location of the State Board of Canvassers; the State Athletic Commission; Port Wardens of New York (abolished in 1928); Office of the Hell Gate Pilots (transferred to the Board of Commissioners of Pilots in 1973); and the commissioners of the Land Office (transferred to the Office of General Services in 1960). The department is also secretariat of the Committee on Public Access to Records, established by law in 1974.

At present the Secretary of State serves as chairman of the Cemetery Board and a member of numerous other boards and commissions including the Adirondack Park Agency, Municipal Bond Bank Agency, Civil Defence Commission, Economic Development Board, Environmental Facilities Corporation, Agricultural Resources Commission, Consumer Protection Board, State Board of Equalization and Assessment, Committee on Public Access to Records, and Tri-State Regional Planning Commission.

The functions of the department were expanded by a 1975 law (Ch. 464) which abolished the Office for Local Government (established in 1959) and the Office of Planning Services (previously Office of Planning Coordination established in 1966) and transferred most of their functions to the Department of State. These functions range from coordinating fire services in the state to advising and assisting local government in their planning activities and furnishing information relating to development of their resources.

Department of State records in the State Archives reflect the importance of the agency as the general recording office of state government. Cognizant of the historical value of many of the records in its custody, the Office of the Secretary of State began transferring records to the New York State Library in 1849. (The transfer was authorized by an act of 1847.) The library continued to accept and preserve records from the department until 1978, when custody of these records was transferred to the newly created State Archives.

Records

Constitutions and Laws

Engrossed Copy of the United States Constitution Ratified by the Convention of New York State. 1787-1788. 1 vol.

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Third Constitution of the State of New York. 1846. 1 vol.

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Correspondence. 1646-1664. 3.5 cf.

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Minutes of the Commissioners to Examine the Controversy Between Connecticut and the Mohegan Indians. 1743. .5 cf.

Evidence in Vindication of the Territorial Rights of New York against Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. 1750. .5 cf.

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Marriage Bonds Issued by the Provincial Secretary. 1753-1784. 2 cf.

Records of Revolutionary Era Legislatures

Credentials of Delegates to the Provincial Congress. 1775. .5 cf.

Administrative Files of the Provincial Congress. ca. 1775-1777. .5 cf.

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Correspondence and Files of the Military Committee of the Provincial Congress. 1775-1778. .5 cf.

Correspondence of the Provincial Congress, Committee of Safety, Conference of Representatives, and Council of Safety. 1775-1778. .5 cf.

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Military Returns for Revolutionary War. 1779-1780. .5 cf.

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Administrative Files of the Assembly Containing Reports, Petitions, Correspondence, and Land Records. 1777-1831. 4 cf.

Correspondence and Petitions relating to Revolutionary War Service Claims. 1778-1831. 6 cf.

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Petitions, Correspondence, and Resolutions relating to Estates of Deceased Persons. 1779-1831. 1.5 cf.

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Census Schedule for Austerlitz, Columbia County. 1825. .5 cf.

Census Schedules for Coeymans and Westerlo, Albany County, and Root, Montgomery County. 1835. .5 cf.

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Abstracts of Alien Depositions. 1825-1913. 9 cf.

Index to Alien Depositions. 1825-1913. 1 cf.

Alien Deposition Fees. 1836-1854, 1880-1890. 1 cf.

Supreme Court Record of Naturalizations, 1st Judicial District. 1896-1906. 11 vols.

Report of Kings County Clerk of Naturalizations. 1897-1900. 3 vols.

Report of Erie County Clerk of Naturalizations. 1896. 1 vol.

Wills of Out-of-State Residents. 1823-1940. 20 cf.

Licensing and Registration

Peddlers' Licenses. 1840-1896. 4 vols.

Applications and Registrations for Trademarks on Bottles and Casks. 1847-1908. 1 vol.

Judicial Administration Records

Assignments of Judges and Court Terms for the State Supreme Court. 1848-1924. 4 cf.

Certificates of Designation of Judges. 1845-1905. .5 cf.

Records of Supreme Court Judgments. 1857-1884. 1 cf.

Orders of Court Subpoenas. 1854-1882. .5 cf.

Register of Court Judgments for Violation of Highway Law, Article II. 1911-1913. 1 cf.

Minutes and Case Summaries, State Supreme Court Albany County. 1877-1882. 1 vol.

Transcript of Testimony in New York vs. Lockwood. c. 1850. .5 cf.

Agency Administration

Copies of Outgoing Correspondence of the Secretary of State. 1831-1883, 1905-1912. 3 vols. and 4 cf.

Register of Letters Received. 1858-1862. 1 vol.

Register of Instruments Received and Returned. 1874-1880. 2 vols.

Register of Bills Sent to the Secretary of State by the Legislature. 1872-1876. 1 vol.

Accounts for Providing Certified Copies of Legal Documents. 1895-1903; 1911-1914. 2 vols.

Lists of Distribution of State Documents. 1801-1893. 6 cf.

Register of the Distribution of Law Journals. 1817-1938. 2 pkgs.

Orders for Publication of Statutes and Notices in Newspapers. 1896-1926. 2 vols.

Other Records

Minutes of the Meetings of the Trustees of the Capitol and State Hall. 1834-1861; 1868-1877. 2 vols.

Plans of the State Capitol Building. ca. 1873. 1.5 cf.

Photographs of the State Capitol Building during Construction. ca. 1869-1877. 1 vol.

Checkbook of the New Capitol Commissioners. 1871-1874. 1 vol.

Minutes of Meetings of the Board of Port Wardens. 1903-1910. 1 vol.

Accounts of the Port of New York. 1907-1928. 5 vols.

Surveys of Cargo. 1924-1928. 7 vols.

Register of Hell Gate Pilots and Apprentices. 1858-1877. 1 vol.

State Treasurer's Register of Audited Accounts. 1797-1826. 2 vols.

Transcript of Hearing Before the Governor Relating to Charges Against the Chairman of the Public Service Commission. 1915. .5 cf.

Hearing Files Relating to Proposed Garbage Reduction Plant on Staten Island. 1916. .5 cf.

Record of Contract of Conditional Sales. 1922-1969. 3 vols. and 2 cf.

Statements of Expenses of Lobbyists. 1907-1915. 2 cf.

Charities Registration

Annual Financial Reports of Charitable Organizations. 1955-1970. 12 cf.

Division of Legal Affairs

Research Files of the Office for Local Government. ca. 1938-1973. 13 cf.

Moss Lake Indian Lands Negotiation Files. 1974-1979. 3 cf.

Department of Taxation and Finance

During Dutch colonial times, government revenue was derived primarily from customs duties and excise taxes. When these sources proved insufficient the colony fell back on voluntary contributions, but as early as 1654 the home government also granted the colony permission to tax land and livestock directly. The British colonial period witnessed little change in the tax structure.

Responsibility for tax collection and maintenance of public funds was vested in the office of Receiver General under the Dutch, and in the office of Collector and later Receiver General during the first fifty years of British rule. In 1706 a Treasurer was appointed and this office continued until the Revolution. The First Provincial Congress established an office of Treasurer in 1775, and the office was continued in the first state constitution, which provided for appointment of a Treasurer by the Legislature with the nomination originating in the Assembly. The Treasurer was appointed annually by joint legislative ballot under the 1821 constitution and was chosen for a two-year term at a general election after adoption of the 1846 constitution.

After the United States constitution was ratified and the federal government assumed the power to impose and collect excises and customs duties, New York State was required to seek new sources of revenue. During the late eighteenth and first half of the nineteenth centuries, the state obtained revenue primarily from land sales, lotteries, canal tolls, auction fees, taxes on salt works, and investment of state funds. Collecting the revenue was largely the responsibility of the Comptroller, with the Treasurer having custody of the funds and disbursing them upon the Comptroller's warrant.

The state also resorted to general property taxation, first from 1799 to 1802 and again from 1815 to 1826. By 1845, general property taxation became a necessary permanent part of the revenue system, providing ninety-eight per cent of state tax revenue by 1879. Town and county officials assessed property and collected taxes for the state. This system of local assessment caused inequities in the level of taxation from one community to the next. In 1859 a State Board of Equalization was created to equalize the assessments among counties and to fix the total assessment of real and personal property on which the state tax was levied. The Board consisted of three State Assessors appointed by the Governor and the Commissioners of the Land Office. The office of State Assessors was abolished in 1896 and succeeded by a Board of Tax Commissioners, consisting of three gubernatorial appointees who were empowered to furnish technical and advisory services to local assessing officials, and to collect information and make reports on local assessment practices. The three Tax Commissioners and the Land Office Commissioners continued to serve as the State Board of Equalization.

State government reliance on direct property tax revenue declined after 1880, and was discontinued entirely in 1928. Meanwhile a variety of other revenue-producing programs were established including corporation franchise taxes, transfer and estate taxes, stock transfer taxes, fees on racing admissions, sale of alcoholic beverages, and motor vehicle registrations, and beginning in 1919, a personal income tax. Assessment and tax collection responsibilities were shared by the Board of Tax Commissioners, Board of Equalization, Comptroller, Secretary of State, and Treasurer. Consolidation of these diverse functions began in 1915 (Ch. 317), when the State Tax Department was created. This department, headed by a three-member State Tax Commission (which succeeded the Board of Tax Commissioners), assumed the Comptroller's duties relating to corporation taxes, and continued the previous board's functions regarding the property tax, mortgage tax, and the problems of local property assessment. The State Tax Commissioners along with the Land Office Commissioners constituted the State Board of Equalization.

In 1921 (Ch. 90), most of the remaining tax-collection duties were transferred to the department, including responsibility for the stock transfer and personal income taxes from the Comptroller and for the automobile registration tax from the Secretary of State. Following the 1925 reorganization of state government (Ch. 553, L. 1926), the Tax Department was renamed the Department of Taxation and Finance, headed by a commissioner who was also President of a State Tax Commission that included two other appointed members. The department assumed all functions of the Comptroller under the judiciary, tax, military, or any other law relating to the assessment, levy, and collection of direct state taxes, took over the duties of the State Treasurer and the Commissioner of the Canal Fund which were abolished, and took over custody of the State Teachers' Retirement Fund and other state employees' retirement and pension funds. The State Tax Commission, which took over all the duties of the State Board of Equalization, was concerned with local government property assessment after the state property tax was discontinued in 1928. The equalization board was modified and became separate from the department in 1949. A Bureau of Motor Vehicles functioned as a semi-autonomous agency within the new department until it became a separate Department of Motor Vehicles in 1960.

Several additional state taxes have been added since the 1920s, including a sales tax in 1965 that is now the second largest source of state revenue, exceeded only by the personal income tax. When a state lottery was activated in 1967 it was originally administered by the department, but was transferred to the Racing and Wagering Board from 1973 to 1976. The present Division of the Lottery was established in 1976 as an "independent division" within the department. The Director of the Lottery is appointed by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance.

Today, the Department of Taxation and Finance administers the state tax laws and serves as the state's general tax agency, collecting the following taxes: state personal income, corporate franchise, unincorporated business, corporation, utility insurance, estate, gift, sales, highway use, motor fuel, alcoholic beverage, cigarette, pari-mutuel, racing admission, stock transfer, highway use, real estate transfer and New York City income tax. Significant revenue-collecting programs outside the department include motor vehicle taxes and fees, alcoholic beverage control licenses, taxes on insurance premiums, and the lottery.

The department is also responsible for custody of state funds; joint custody of securities with the Comptroller; disbursement of state funds to cover operational expenses of the state, upon warrant of the Comptroller; and registration of all motor truck carriers operating in the state subject to the highway use tax.

Records

Colonial Treasurer

Abstracts of Warrants ("Payments from the Public Chest"). 1702-1705. .5 cf.

Accounts Relating to Excise Tax of the Colony of New York. 1715-1733. .5 cf.

Accounts of Quitrents and Commutations. ca. 1728-1779. 4 cf.

Accounts of Revenue Received. 1729-1783. .5 cf.

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General Accounts of the Provincial Treasurer of New York. 1737-1750. .5 cf.

General Accounts of the Provincial Treasurer of New York. 1751-1767. .5 cf.

Reports of Goods Imported (Manifest Books) to New York. c. 1740-1775. 5 cf.

General Accounts of Provincial Treasurer. ca. 1750-1767. 1 cf.

Entry Documentation Submitted to the Treasurer. 1762-1772. .5 cf.

Abstracts of Land Grants. 1666-1775. 1 cf.

State Treasurer: Financial Records

Treasurer's Journal. 1775-1894. 40 vols.

Auditor's Journal. 1775-1793. 1 cf.

Treasurer's Accounts of Payments Made. 1775-1797. 1 cf.

Treasurer's Ledger of Financial Transactions. 1775-1782. .5 cf.

General Accounts. 1775-1797. .5 cf.

Treasurer's Daybook. 1778-1848. 53 vols.

Tax Assessment Lists. 1779-1788. .5 cf.

Bond and Mortgage Ledgers. 1795-1908. 39 vols.

Cash Book. 1854-1883. 6 vols.

Loan Book. 1855-1884. 2 vols.

Payment Journals. 1857-1921. 108 vols.

Bank Journals of Funds Received. 1857-1924. 16 vols.

Payments from the Canal Fund. 1857-1862. 5 vols.

Canal Fund Ledger. 1860-1869. 2 vols.

Receipt Book. 1862-1923. 106 vols.

Appropriation Ledger. 1882-1915. 56 vols.

(Note: The State Archives holds approximately 300 additional volumes of as yet unidentified State Treasurer's Financial Records.)

State Treasurer: Correspondence

Letterbooks. 1848-1888. 2 vols.

Record of Correspondence Received. 1875-1917. 16 vols.

State Treasurer: Miscellaneous

Register of Abandoned Children of Slaves. ca. 1802-1866. 1 vol.

Commissioner of Taxation and Finance

Correspondence and Speeches Files. 1922-1942. 3 cf.

Tax Records

Transfer Tax Records for the Estates of J.J. Astor, J.P. Morgan, W. Frear, and F. Trowbridge. 1913-1917. 2 cf.

Property Assessments Relating to an Appeal by Various Towns of the Assessment by the Delaware County Board of Supervisors. 1915-1917. 2.5 cf.

Division of the Lottery

Although lotteries were a major source of state revenue in the early nineteenth century, New York State did not operate any state lotteries for nearly 150 years because the state constitutions of 1821, 1846, and 1894 specifically prohibited them. At the 1966 general election the constitution was amended to allow the establishment and operation of a state lottery. The following year (Ch. 278, L. 1967) enabling legislation created the lottery and designated that net proceeds be used for public education and scholarships. To administer the lottery a Division of the Lottery was set up in the Department of Taxation and Finance, which operated the lottery with advice from a State Lottery Commission appointed by the Governor. In 1973 (Ch. 346) the division was transferred to the State Racing and Wagering Board in the Executive Department, and the State Lottery Commission became an advisory body to the board.

In 1976 (Ch. 92), the lottery operated by the Racing and Wagering Board was abolished, and a "separate and independent division of the lottery" was created within the Department of Taxation and Finance. The Division is headed by a director appointed by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance, but the director has "sole charge of the administration of the division," including the power to establish and operate state lotteries. Initially two games—instant and weekly—were created, and from 1977 to 1980 an Olympic Lottery was also held. The amended New York State Lottery for Education Law (Article 34 of the Consolidated Tax Law) stipulates that forty-five percent of total revenue be allocated for education, forty percent for prizes, and fifteen percent for administration.

No Records in State Archives

Department of Transportation

The origins of this department can be traced to the Dutch office of Surveyor General established in 1642 to survey the lands of the Province of New Netherland. The office was continued under the British colonial government and reestablished after New York became a state (Ch. 32, L. 1781). The state Surveyor General was originally appointed by the Council of Appointment, but the 1821 Constitution provided for election by the Legislature. Surveying the public lands continued to be the principal function of the office, and the Surveyor General was designated a member of the Land Office which was created in 1786.

The major state involvement in transportation during the nineteenth century was the canal system. Commissioners were appointed in 1810 and 1811 to report on possibilities for developing "inland navigation" in New York State. In 1816 (Ch. 237) the Legislature appointed five commissioners to "facilitate and effect" construction of a canal between the Hudson River and the Great Lakes. The next year (Ch. 262, L. 1817) the five Commissioners were made permanent and constituted the Board of Canal Commissioners. They were specifically authorized to build canals between the Hudson River and Lake Erie, with branches to Lake Champlain and Lake Ontario. The same act created a Canal Fund, to be derived from canal tolls, other state revenues, and donations of land. The Fund was to be administered by the Commissioners of the Canal Fund, consisting of the Lieutenant Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General, Surveyor General, Secretary of State and Treasurer. When the Erie Canal was completed in 1825, a Canal Board, made up of the Canal Commissioners and the Commissioners of the Canal Fund, was created to fix tolls, make regulations, and hire employees (Ch. 314, L. 1826).

The Constitution of 1846 made the Canal Commissioners elective by the people, created the elective office of State Engineer and Surveyor (replacing the Surveyor General), and made him a member of the Canal Board. The State Engineer and Surveyor assumed the duties of the office of Surveyor General and was also given responsibility for carrying out engineering and surveying work on the canals. The Canal Board continued to appoint division canal superintendents and their staffs, but these people were to work at the direction of the State Engineer and Surveyor (Ch. 72, L. 1848).

An 1876 Constitutional amendment abolished the office of Canal missioners and created the office of Superintendent of Public

Works, appointed by the Governor. The Superintendent was charged with executing all laws relating to canal maintenance and navigation, except those functions performed by the State Engineer and Surveyor, who continued to prepare maps, plans, and estimates for canal construction and improvement. The Canal Board (now consisting of the Superintendent of Public Works, the State Engineer and Surveyor, and the Commissioners of the Canal Fund) continued to handle hiring of employees and other personnel matters. The Barge Canal Law of 1903 (Ch. 147), which authorized enlargement and improvements of the Erie, Champlain, and Oswego Canals, made the Canal Board responsible for this new construction.

A 1923 law (Ch. 867) established the Department of Public Works, headed by the Superintendent of Public Works. This department consolidated the offices of Superintendent of Public Works, Superintendent and Trustees of Public Buildings, Department of Highways, and Commission on Boundary Waters between the United States and Canada. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the Assembly had been designated Trustees of Public Buildings in 1909 (Ch. 48) with authority to appoint a superintendent to care for all state buildings in Albany.

The Department of Highways was established in 1908 (Ch. 330) to supervise bridges and highways financed by state funds. It was originally headed by three commissioners appointed by the Governor, but a 1911 law (Ch. 646) designated that the state Superintendent of Highways, the State Engineer and Surveyor, and the Superintendent of Public Works act as highway commissioners. In 1913 (Ch. 80), a single highway commissioner replaced the commissioners. The Boundary Waters Commission, consisting of the Superintendent of Public Works, State Engineer and Surveyor, two senate appointees, two assembly appointees, and two gubernatorial appointees, had been created in 1920 to study the feasibility of a bridge between the United States and Canada.

Pursuant to the constitutional reorganization of 1925, the Canal Board, and the State Engineer and Surveyor's office were abolished and their functions absorbed by the new Department of Public Works. The office of Commissioners of the Canal Fund was abolished, and responsibility for the fund assumed by the Department of Audit and Control.

Enabling legislation in 1926 (Ch. 348) established five divisions: canals and waterways; highways; public building; engineering; and architecture. The Department also absorbed the former Department of Architecture, Bureau of Housing and Regional Planning, Salt Water Bays Commission, and Office of Harbor Masters. The Department of Architecture was established in 1914 (Ch. 111) absorbing the office of State Architect, which had succeeded the Office of Capitol Commissioner established in 1899. The Architecture Department designed and prepared plans and specifications for state building. The Bureau of Housing and Regional Planning, (headed by a commission consisting of the State Architect, Commissioner of Highways, Industrial Commissioner, and five others appointed by the architect), was established within the Department of Architecture in 1923 (Ch. 694). The Salt Water Bays Commission was established in 1923 to survey waters of eastern Long Island, and the Harbor Masters were appointed by the Governor after 1911 to regulate vessels in certain port cities north of New York City.

The Department of Public Works was abolished in 1967 (Ch. 717) and its responsibilities for transportation planning, construction, and operation, including maintenance of the state barge canal system, were transferred to a newly created Department of Transportation. Also assigned to the new department were the duties and staff of the Office of Transportation which had been formed within the Executive Department in 1959; the duties and staff of the State Traffic Commission, which has been created in the Department of Taxation and Finance in 1936 and restructured under the Department of Motor Vehicles in 1961; and the aviation functions of the Department of Commerce. Flood control, shore protection, and beach erosion control functions formerly exercised by the Department of Public Works, were transferred to the Conservation Department, and the duties and functions of the architecture division were transferred to the Office of General Services.

The responsibilities of the department today include coordinating and developing transportation policy and planning; assisting in the development and operation of transportation facilities and services including highway, rail mass transit, marine, and aviation facilities; formulating and revising a long-range master plan for development of commuter and general transportation facilities, both public and private; administering a public safety program for rail and motor carriers in intrastate commerce; and regulating rates and services of transportation corporations in the public interest. (These transportation regulatory functions were assumed from the Department of Public Service in 1971.)

A Commissioner of Transportation, appointed by the Governor, is the administrative head of the department.

Records

State Engineer and Surveyor Land Records

Application for Land Grant Files. ca. 1780-1900. 45 cf.

Land Survey Field Notes. 1665-1927. 20 cf.

Land Survey Maps. ca. 1744-1900. 36 cf.

Holland Land Company Records. ca. 1800-1850. 20 cf.

Maps and Profiles of Erie and Hudson State Roads. ca. 1820-1830. 2 cf.

Original Drafts for Land Patents. 1680-1751. .5 cf.

Canal Records

Contracts, Specifications, Estimates, and Disbursements for Canal Improvements. 1911-1922. .5 cf.

Village and City Boundaries

Maps of Village Corporation Boundary Lines. 1870-1939. 43 maps.

Aerial Photographs of Cities and Villages. 1963-1966. 1 cf.

Planning Division

Photographs (Negatives) of Road Construction. ca. 1890-1910m 6 cf.

County Highway Maps. 1945-1949. 2 vols.

Administrative Files Relating to Highway Legislation and Construction. 1955-1972. 10 cf.

Aerial Photographs for the Capital District Transportation Study. ca. 1965. 395 items.

Transportation Financial Review Division

Annual Financial Reports of Bus Companies. 1922-1957. 20 cf.

Public Benefit Corporations

Dormitory Authority

This authority was established in 1944 (Ch. 524) as a public benefit corporation to prepare plans, designs, and cost estimates for the construction of dormitories for the state colleges for teachers (after 1948, colleges under the jurisdiction of the State University of New York), to let contracts or hire employees to construct dormitories, to borrow money and issue negotiable bonds to finance the planning and construction, to fix and collect rentals, and to maintain and operate the dormitories until outstanding bonds have been liquidated. The enabling legislation designated a board of eight—the Commissioner of Education, the Comptroller, and six members appointed by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York—to head the authority.

Amendments to the Dormitory Authority Act have expanded the powers of the authority. Revisions in 1955, 1959, and 1966 granted the power to finance, construct, and equip academic, administrative, residential, and related facilities at private institutions of higher learning. In 1964 institutions for the training of nurses were added to the list of qualified projects, as were facilities for the regional Boards of Cooperative Educational Services in 1967; health facilities, including those for the state Health Department, in 1971; community college buildings in 1972; and facilities for the aged in 1974. Several other amendments have authorized the Dormitory Authority to construct specific cultural and educational facilities.

Legislative enactments have also changed the structure of the Board. Currently it consists of seven members: four appointed by the Governor; one by the Comptroller; and the Director of the Budget and Commissioner of Education as ex officio members.

No Records in State Archives

Power Authority of the State of New York

The Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY) was created in 1931 (Ch. 772) as an agency to improve, along with appropriate Canadian and United States authorities, the International Rapids Section of the St. Lawrence River near Massena as a means of commerce and navigation and to develop available hydroelectric power resources. In 1950, additional power resources of the Niagara River were made available to the United States under a treaty with Canada, and the following year PASNY was authorized by statute to develop additional power resources of this river.

It was not until 1953 that the Authority was granted a license by the Federal Power Commission to construct, maintain and operate the St. Lawrence Power Project. As a public benefit corporation, the Power Authority sold revenue bonds to defray the cost of the project and in 1959 electric power was made available to the state. In 1958 the Authority was granted another license to construct, maintain and operate the Niagara Power Project, which was completed in 1963. In the case of both projects,contracts for the sale of power are expected to pay off debts incurred by construction and operation of the facilities.

In 1968 the Authority was granted the right to construct nuclear facilities and hydroelectric pumped storage projects within specified areas, either alone or in cooperation with private utilities. Since then the Authority has completed projects at Blenheim-Gilboa (Schoharie County) and Nine Mile Point (on Lake Ontario near Oswego), and has applied to the Federal Power Commission to build a project at Prattsville (Schoharie County). In 1974 the Authority also acquired and now operates power facilities in Astoria (Queens County) and Indian Point (the latter a nuclear plant in Westchester County) to supply electricity to the New York City metropolitan area.

The Power Authority is supervised by a board of five part-time trustees appointed by the Governor for five-year terms. One of the trustees is designated as chairperson.

No Records in State Archives

New York State Thruway Authority

This public benefit corporation was created in 1950 (Ch. 143) to construct, maintain, and operate a central highway route across the state. The Authority was empowered to issue bonds to finance its operation; acquire property rights along the highway route; enter into contracts to construct and maintain the road; and collect tolls and other fees for road use. The 559 mile Thruway was completed in 1960. It connects New York City and Buffalo, with additional links to expressways in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and

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Pennsylvania. In 1964 the highway system was officially renamed The Governor Thomas E. Dewey Thruway.

The Thruway Authority operates entirely without state financial assistance, although the state guaranteed half the bond issue used to finance initial road construction. This bond debt and ongoing operational costs are paid by the proceeds from tolls and fees. The Authority is governed by a board of three members appointed by the Governor.

No Records in State Archives

Urban Development Corporation

This agency was created in 1968 (Ch. 174) to plan, finance, construct, and operate residential, commercial, industrial and civic facilities in urban areas marked by substantial unemployment and deteriorated structures. Corporation activities include building low and moderate income housing, constructing and rehabilitating industrial and commercial facilities, and providing financial assistance to municipalities for the construction of educational, cultural, and recreational facilities.

A public benefit corporation, the UDC obtains the capital resources necessary to carry out its rehabilitation and construction projects through the issuance of tax exempt bonds. These funds are used to finance mortgages on UDC projects, which are in turn sold or leased to private sector developers at the earliest feasible time. The resulting income is used to pay both the debt service on UDC securities and the administrative costs of UDC operations.

In addition to its relative independence in financial matters, the UDC's status as a public benefit corporation allows it greater administrative flexibility to manage public enterprises on a more commercial-type basis, free of many limitations under which other state agencies operate— such as public bidding requirements, hiring provisions of the civil service law, and direct control by state officials. This status also allows the UDC to overcome jurisdictional problems in the operation of facilities or services on a regional basis, and provides a vehicle to take advantage of certain types of federal grants and loans.

The corporation is headed by nine directors: seven gubernatorial appointees and the Superintendents of Banking and Insurance. The

Governor also appoints a president who serves as chief executive officer.

In order to help the UDC meet its contractual obligations, the Project Finance Agency (PFA) was created in 1975. Also a public benefit corporation, this agency was authorized to sell tax exempt bonds and use the money to repay loans and other financial obligations. The agency is headed by a board consisting of the chairperson of the state Housing Finance Agency (who also serves as chairperson of the Project Finance Agency,) the Director of the Budget, the Commissioners of the Department of Taxation and Finance and the Division of Housing and Community Renewal, and three gubernatorial appointees.

In the aftermath of the near bankruptcy of the UDC in 1975, which prompted a Moreland Act Investigation of the corporation, the State Mortgage Loan Enforcement Administration (MLEA) was established as a joint venture of UDC and PFA in 1979, to further assist the corporation in meeting financial obligations without recourse to state aid. The MLEA is directed to bring increased financial stability to UDC as well as initiate physical and structural repairs on housing projects, strengthen project management, and secure additional federal monies.

Records

Inventory of Urban Development Corporation Records. 1974-1975. 1 cf.

Temporary War Emergency Agencies

Council of Defense/War Council

These two temporary agencies were established during World War I and World War II, respectively. The State Council of Defense, established in 1917 (Ch. 369), was charged with conducting studies and formulating plans for the coordination of the state's military, agricultural, and commerical resources during World War I. It supervised local councils and assisted the Council of National Defense and other federal agencies. The State Council originally consisted of the Governor, State Engineer and Surveyor, Superintendent of Public Works, Commissioner of Agriculture, and a gubernatorial appointee representing New York City. Two additional members were appointed by the Governor in 1918. The Council functioned until 1920 when it was dissolved.

A second State Council of Defense was established by executive order in 1940, and became a statutory body the following year (Ch. 22, L. 1941). Following the passage of the New York State War Emergency Act in 1942 (Ch. 445), the Council of Defense was replaced by the New York War Council, a temporary state commission composed of the Governor, certain legislative leaders, and ten gubernatorial appointees. The Council formulated and administered plans for the mobilization and efficient utilization of resources and facilities, coordinated state and local programs for defense and civilian protection, and was authorized, among other duties, to oversee rationing and price fixing. The Council was terminated in 1947.

Records

State Council of Defense

State Council of Defense Meeting Minutes. 1918. .5 cf.

Correspondence with State and Federal Commissions and Agencies. 1917-1918. 2.5 cf.

Circulars, Bulletins, and Press Releases. 1917-1918. .5 cf.

Correspondence of County Home Defense Committees. 1917-1918. 2 cf.

Legislative Bills Relating to the State Defense Council. 1917-1918. .5 cf.

Lists of Various Institutional Resources. 1917-1918. .5 cf.

Inventory of Hospital Resources in the State. 1917. .5 cf.

Inventory of Military Resources in the State. 1917. .5 cf.

Reports and Publications Received from Government Agencies. 1917-1918. .5 cf.

Applications, Licenses, and Rulings of the War Industries Board. 1917-1918. .5 cf.

Summaries of Construction Projects. 1918. .5 cf.

War Council: Executive Office

Agendas and Minutes of Meetings of the War Council. 1942-1945. 3 cf.

Resolutions of the State Defense Council and War Council. 1940-1945. 7 cf.

Orders and Regulations. ca. 1942-1944. 2.5 cf.

The Official Bulletin. 1942. 1.5 cf.

Releases from the Governor's Office Relating to Wartime Measures. 1942. .5 cf.

Copies of Petitions Relating to the War Emergency Act. ca. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Office Files of the Executive Secretary. 1941-1942. 1 cf.

File of Resolutions and Form Letters Issued. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Office Files of the Deputy State Director. 1940-1945. 13 cf.

General Subject Files. 1940-1945. 22 cf.

General Correspondence Files. 1940-1945. 10 cf.

Correspondence with Local Councils. 1940-1945. 4 cf.

Files Relating to Local War Councils. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Correspondence with Other State War Councils. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Office Files Relating to National War Agencies. 1940-1945. .5 cf.

Correspondence and Reports Relating to Social and Economic Surveys. 1940-1945. .5 cf.

Monthly Progress Reports of State Agencies Performing War Work. 1941-1945. 5 cf.

Files Relating to the Activities of State and Local Agencies. 1940-1945. 22 cf.

Pamphlets. 1940-1945. 2.5 cf.

Miscellaneous Publications. 1940-1945. 9.5 cf.

Photographs. 1940-1945. 3 cf.

War Council: Office of Civilian Mobilization

Files of the Office of Civilian Mobilization. 1942-1944. 28.5 cf.

Master and Operating Reports of Local Defense Councils. ca. 1943-1944. 3 cf.

Office Files Concerning the State Education Department. ca. 1940-1945. 5 cf.

Files of the Office of Physical Fitness. ca. 1940-1945. 17 cf.

Report and Certificate Requisitions Form of the Office of Physical Fitness. ca. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Office Files of Committee on Child Care. ca. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Attendance and Enrollment Reports of the Committee on Child Care. ca. 1940-1946. 2 cf.

Applications, Claims and Field Reports Filed with the Committee on Child Care. ca. 1940-1945. 1.5 cf.

Petitions From the Bronx Coordinating Committee for Child Care Relating to the Establishment of Child Care Centers. ca. 1940-1945. .5 cf.

War Council: Division of Civilian Production

Office Files of the Division of Civilian Production. 1940-1945. 6 cf.

War Council: Division of Civilian Protection

Files of the Director of the Office of Civilian Protection. 1940-1945. 3 cf.

Office Files Relating to the Eastern District. 1940-1945. 4 cf.

Office Files Relating to the Western District. 1940-1945. 7 cf.

Office Files of the State Fire Administration. 1940-1945. 73 cf.

Office Files Relating to the U.S. Office of Civilian Defense. ca. 1940-1945. 7 cf.

Allocation Files. 1940-1945. 2 cf.

Control Station Card Files. 1940-1945. 4 cf.

Films on Civil Defense. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Pamphlets Relating to Civilian Protection. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Press Releases. 1940-1945. 3 cf.

Working Files for Publication "The Empire State at War." 1940-1945. 3 cf.

War Council: War Manpower Commission

War Manpower Commission Correspondence. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

War Council: War Transportation Commission

Files Relating to Mutual Aid for Highway Repair. 1940-1945. 3 cf.

Mutual Aid Assignment Cards. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

War Council: Nursing Council for War Services

Office Files of Nursing Council for War Services. 1940-1945. 4 cf.

Files Relating to the Assignment and Procurement of Nurses. 1940-1945. 24 cf.

War Council: Other Offices

Office Files of the Committee on Discrimination in Employment. 1940-1945. 9 cf.

Office Files of the Emergency Medical Service. ca. 1940-1945. 3 cf.

Files of the Office of Criminal Identification. ca. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Office Files of the State Gas Consultant. 1940-1945. 1 cf.

Office Files Relating to the Council for Citizen Unity. ca. 1940-1945. 2 cf.

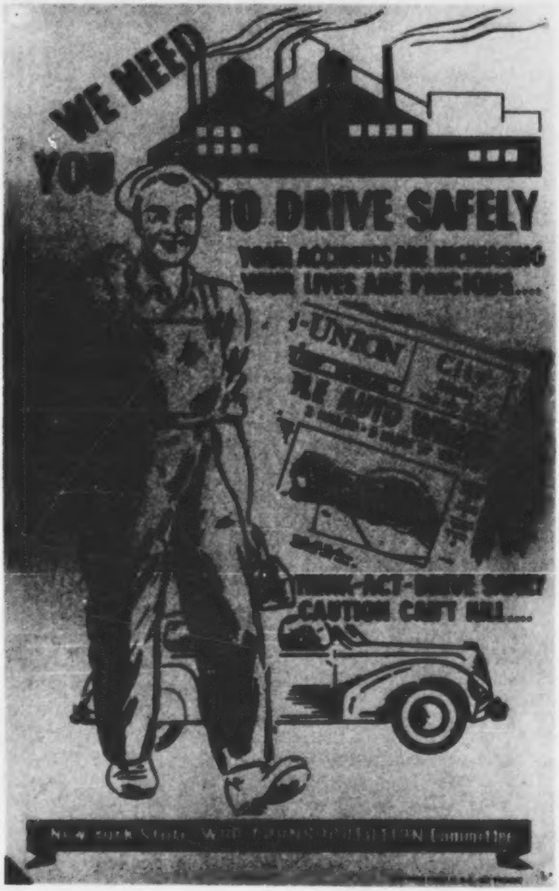
Office Files of the Bureau of Rationing. ca. 1940-1945. 4 cf.

Office Files of the Division of Salvage. ca. 1940-1945. 10 cf.

Office Files of the Farm Manpower Service. ca. 1940-1945. 6 cf.

Orders of the War Emergency Dispensation Committee. ca. 1940-1945. 2 cf.

Office Files of the Office of War Information. ca 1940-1945. 4 cf.


WE NEED
YOU
TO DRIVE SAFELY
YOUR ACCIDENTS ARE INCREASING
YOUR LIVES ARE PRECIOUS....
-UNION
AUTO
THINK-ACT-DRIVE SAFELY
CAUTION CAN'T KILL....

Before it was phased out in late 1942, the New York State W.P.A. Arts Project prepared many posters for the War Council.

PART II

THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Legislature

The origins of the Legislature can be traced to the era of Dutch rule, 1623-1664. New Netherland was administered by a director-general appointed by the Board of Directors of the Dutch West India Company. The Board also created a Council of four men to assist him, offer advice, review local regulations, and serve with him as a criminal and civil court. From the English conquest in 1664 until 1688 (except for a brief period in 1673-1674 when the Dutch regained control of the colony), New York was ruled by James, Duke of York, under provisions of a charter granted by his brother, King Charles II. James appointed a Governor who was assisted by an advisory Council. Popular resistance to payment of taxes in the early 1680s convinced colonial authorities to call a popular assembly, which met in 1683 and drew up a Charter of Liberties and Privileges providing for continuation of the Assembly and proscribing levying of taxes without its concurrence. However, when James became king in 1685, he refused to approve the charter, and New York became a royal colony.

A rebellion led by merchant Jacob Leisler 1688-1691 convinced royal authorities of the need to renew the popularly chosen Assembly, which continued in existence until the coming of the Revolution in 1775. The Assembly sought to expand its authority over fiscal matters. In 1704, it secured power to appoint a colonial treasurer and to approve levies of taxes and expenditures. The Assembly gradually increased its control over appropriations and expenditures despite periodic opposition from British governors who attempted to resist Assembly encroachment. During the same period, the advisory Council continued in existence, exercising both a legislative and a judicial function.

The period between the last colonial assembly in 1775 and the formulation of the state government in 1777 was marked by a series of temporary committees, conventions, and congresses that organized resistance to the British and supplied New York military forces. The Fourth Provincial Congress, which met in July of 1776, adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 9 and renamed itself the Convention of Representatives of the State of New York. A special committee was appointed to draft a formal state constitution which was finally approved April 20, 1777.

The 1777 state constitution vested "supreme legislative power" in a two-house legislature. The lower house, called the Assembly, was roughly modeled on the colonial Assembly. It was to consist of seventy members elected annually by adult males who met stipulated property requirements. The upper house, called the Senate, had no exact colonial counterpart; the closest approximation was the Governor's Council. The Senate, consisting of twenty-four members, was given power equal to that of the Assembly, but the property-holding requirements for electors was higher and Senators were to have a four-year term in office. A septennial census was directed to ensure continued apportionment on a population basis, and the maximum number of seats was established at 100 for the Senate and 300 for the Assembly.

The Legislature was given broad governmental authority which has continued essentially unchanged to the present day. The Constitution specified that bills passed by the Legislature must be reviewed by a "Council of Revision" consisting of the Governor, four justices of the Supreme Court, the Chancellor (the highest justice of the equity court system), and four senators elected by the Assembly. The Governor and any two of the others would have the power to "revise" or veto the bills and then return them to the Legislature, which could repass them by a two-thirds vote. A "Council of Appointment," consisting of the Governor and four senators chosen by the Assembly, was designated to fill non-elective civil office. The Assembly was given power to issue articles of impeachment against state officers for "corrupt conduct," and the impeached officers were to stand trial before a Court of Errors and Impeachment, consisting of members of the Senate, the Chancellor, and judges of the Supreme Court. This court also exercised final appellate jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases.

Legislative authority was not significantly changed until the general revision of the Constitution in 1821. At that time, the Council of Appointment and Council of Revision were abolished. The Constitution gave the Governor veto power over legislation, but the veto could be overridden by a two-thirds vote of each house. The chief officers of the state, including the Secretary of State, Attorney General, and Comptroller, were to be selected by the Legislature but the Governor was given power to choose lesser officials, with consent of the Senate. Property holding qualifications for voting were retained for blacks, but virtual universal suffrage was established for white males. The Constitution increased the number of members in both houses and provided for a decennial census to maintain proper apportionment.

The next general change in the Constitution was made in 1846. The term of senators was reduced to two years and the Senate's power to have appellate jurisdiction as a court of errors was discontinued. Apportionment was to be based on decennial censuses beginning with 1855. The new constitution also reduced the Legislature's appointive powers by making the Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, and Attorney General elective offices. The Constitution increased the power of the Legislature to confer additional governing powers on county boards of supervisors, to provide for the organization of cities and incorporated villages, and to restrict the powers of municipalities to tax, assess, borrow money, and contract debts. The Legislature was empowered to enact a general incorporation law and to organize judicial districts and a court of appeals.

The Legislature's powers remained essentially unchanged during the next half century. A few amendments were added pertaining to the Legislature's powers over revenue. For instance, 1882 amendments abolished tolls on the canals and authorized the Legislature to provide a special fund to cover the expenses of the Canal. An amendment in 1874 removed remaining special qualifications for black voters.

In 1894, voters approved a new Constitution which consolidated amendments made since 1846 and which, with additional amendments, is still in effect. The Senate was increased to 50 members, the Assembly to 150, and members of both houses were to be elected biennially. The Constitution authorized creation of a state board of charities, a commission in lunacy, and a commission of prisons. The Legislature was given responsibility for providing for maintenance and support of a free common school system.

Since 1894, the structure of the Legislature has been altered by amendments originating either in the Legislature or in constitutional conventions held in 1915 and 1938 (voters turned down a revised constitution prepared by the 1967 convention). The Legislature lost constitutional authority over the state budget but gained authority to fund, or make loans for, special statewide public works projects. Beginning in 1926, the Governor was authorized to prepare and submit to the Legislature an annual budget covering all state agencies and to prepare the necessary appropriation bills to put it into effect (see entry for Division of Budget). The two houses of the Legislature may hold hearings on the budgets but it may not alter the executive budget except to eliminate or reduce separate items.

On the other hand, the Legislature has gained the power to loan funds to public corporations organized to make loans to non-profit corporations for specified purposes; to annually appropriate money for the payment of debts and retirement of sinking funds; to expand the state university system; to provide for low income housing; and to authorize the state or any municipality to make loans for the construction of hospitals.

Currently the Senate consists of 50 members and the Assembly contains 150 members. The electorate includes all people over 18 years of age who have been residents of the state, and inhabitants of the county, city, or town for three months prior to the election. Internal organization rests with each house. The Speaker of the Assembly and the Majority Leader in the Senate (who also serves as President Pro Tem) provide political leadership, appoint committee chairmen, make committee assignments, and supervise legislative staff.

Much of the work of the Legislature is conducted by committees, which study issues and formulate legislation. As of 1981, the Senate has twenty-eight committees and the Assembly thirty-one standing committees. The Senate Finance and the Assembly Ways and Means committees are considered most powerful since they deal with the Governor's executive budget and all appropriation bills. The Legislature creates select committees or temporary task forces to deal with legislation in areas not clearly covered by the jurisdiction of standing committees. Joint legislative committees are sometimes appointed to deal with particularly difficult or long-term issues. Members of the Legislature also serve on temporary state commissions along with officials from executive agencies.

The Legislature is also assisted by a Legislative Bill Drafting Commission which it established in 1968. The Commissioners are appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly. The Commission prepares drafts of legislative bills, resolutions, and amendments; advises on the constitutionality or effect of proposed legislation; and conducts research on topics of proposed legislation.

See also: Department of State.

Records

Senate and Assembly

Reports and Resolutions of the Committee of Claims and Committee of Privileges and Elections. 1784-1822. 1 vol.

Petitions to the Legislature. 1786-1910. 20 cf.

Copy of Assessment Rolls of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Dutchess County. 1786. .5 cf.

An Act to Divide the Counties into Towns. 1801. 1 vol.

Abstracts from the Laws with Regard to the Organization and Government of Towns. 1801-1817. 1 vol.

Names of Persons in Albany to Whom Licenses Were Granted for Carriages. 1813. .5 cf.

Statement of the Duties on Licenses and Manufacturers Arising in Albany and Schenectady Counties under the Act of Congress of July 24, 1813, With Schedules of Names. 1814-1817. .5 cf.

List of Duties Payable on Household Furniture and on Gold and Silver Watches, under Act of Congress of January 18, 1815, With Names of Owners in Schenectady and Duanesburgh. 1815. .5 cf.

Bonds Given by Manufacturers in the County of Albany to the U.S. Collector. 1815. .5 cf.

Memorandum Relating to An Act to Revise the Charter of the City of Buffalo. 1890. 1 vol.

Senate and Assembly Standing Committee Agendas. 1974-1976. 24 cf.

Senate

Register of Bills Referred to Committee. 1867. 1 vol.

Correspondence File of the Chairman of the State Senate Finance Committee. 1909. .5 cf.

Files of the Civil Service Committee. 1913-1916. .5 cf.

Environmental Conservation Committee, Public Hearing Files. 1977. 1 cf.

Assembly

Stenographer's Notes of the Minutes of the State Assembly. 1897. .5 cf.

Committee Actions on Bills. 1911. 23 vols.

Ways and Means Committee Correspondence. ca. 1935-1947. 40 cf.

Ways and Means Committee Correspondence, Reports, and Printed Material. ca. 1943-1955. 6 cf.

Education Committee Correspondence about Proposed Legislation. 1968-1969. 2 cf.

Assembly Oversight and Investigation Committee, Subject Files. 1974-1978. 25 cf.

Committee on Agriculture; Preservation of the Family Farm Hearings Statements. 1977-1979. .5 cf.

Joint Legislative Committees

Joint Legislative Good Roads Committee, Minutes of Meetings and Hearings. 1907. 2 vols.

Factory Investigating Commission, Office Files. 1911-1912. 10 cf.

Factory Investigating Commission, Factory Statistics and Employee Information Cards. 1911-1912. 35 cf.

Factory Investigating Commission, Photograph Negatives. 1911-1912. .5 cf.

Commission to Investigate Provisions for the Mentally Deficient, Office Files. 1911-1912. 4 cf.

Commission to Investigate Provisions for the Mentally Deficient, Hearings. 1912. .5 cf.

Commission to Investigate Provisions for the Mentally Deficient, Research Files. 1911-1912. 6 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities, Administrative Files. 1919-1920. 2 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities, Subject Files. 1919-1920. 1 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities, Hearing Transcripts. 1919-1920. 2 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities, Seized Files. ca. 1919. 13 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities, Pamphlets and Clippings. ca. 1910-1920. 23 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Seditious Activities, Drafts of Final Report. 1920. 3 cf.

Records of the Joint Legislative Committee on Housing, Insurance Companies and Banking Institutions. ca. 1919-1920. 80 cf.

Commission to Examine Laws Relating to Child Welfare, Correspondence and Accounts. 1920-1922. .5 cf.

Files of the Joint Legislative Committee to Investigate Public Utilities. 1934-1935. .5 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on Discrimination in Employment of the Middle Aged, Office Files. 1937-1940. 2 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on the State Education System, Maps of School Districts. 1942-1943. 4 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on Industrial and Labor Relations, General Office Files. 1938-1949. 4 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on Industrial and Labor Relations, Business Firms Survey Files. 1932-1940. 11.5 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on Industrial and Labor Relations, Labor Relations Education Research Files. ca. 1940-1942. .2 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on Industrial and Labor Relations, Workmen's Compensation Research Files. ca. 1925-1945. ca. .5 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on Legislative Methods, Practices, Procedures, and Expenditures, Reports and Research Files. 1944-1946. 5 cf.

Hearing Records of the Commission on Legislative Practices and Procedures. 1958-1959. 2 cf.

Files of the Joint Legislative Commission on Fire Laws. 1953-1954. 2 cf.

Reports of the Joint Legislative Committee on Matrimonial and Family Laws. 1957-1958. .5 cf.

Joint Legislative Committee on Consumer Protection, Correspondence Files. 1966-1967. 1 cf.

Constitutional Conventions

Constitutional Convention of 1915:

Printed Resolutions and Amendments. 1 cf.

Working Files of Committees. 24 cf.

Constitutional Convention of 1938:

Proposed Amendments. 3 cf.

Delegates' and Officers' Financial Accounts and Receipts. 3 cf.

Daily Proceedings. 4 cf.

Original Journal. 1 cf.

Revised Record. 1 cf.

Constitutional Oaths of Delegates. 1 vol.

Constitutional Convention of 1967:

Working Files of the Committees. 38 cf.

Certificates of Election. 1 cf.

Original Propositions. 3 cf.

PART III

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

The Judiciary

New York's judicial system traces its beginnings to the colonial period when supreme judicial authority was centralized in the office of the Governor. In concert with an advisory Council, the Governor established such inferior courts as he deemed necessary and also served as the court of last resort in most cases. Under the Dutch, the judicial system consisted of local government courts and courts established by the patroons within their respective estates. These courts reached their decisions through appointed officials, judges, or arbitrators and not by juries. The imposition of British rule in 1664 brought with it the creation of a system of courts with more sharply defined jurisdictions based on the severity of crimes or the nature of civil cases, and the gradual imposition of English common law, which included trial by jury. The British system evolved into a series of specialized courts including the Court of Chancery, the Court for the Administration of Estates, and the Court for the Trial of Impeachments and Correction of Errors.

The first state constitution, adopted in 1777, made little specific reference to courts except to divest the Governor of his supreme judicial authority, and essentially continued the court system inherited from the British. However, the structure and organization of the judiciary were continually modified through constitutional amendments, beginning with the Constitutional Convention of 1821, and through legislative enactments.

The 1821 Constitution established eight judicial districts in the State. Each district held its own circuit court that was administered by a judge who was appointed by the Legislature. Decisions of the circuit courts could be appealed to the Supreme Court consisting of one chief justice and two associates. The Supreme Court's jurisdiction was limited to appellate matters only. The constitution also allowed the circuit judges and the county courts to be vested with powers of equity which the Legislature conferred on them in 1823 (Ch. 182). In the same year (Ch. 70) the Probate Courts, which were founded in 1778, were abolished and replaced by Surrogate Courts in each county.

The state's court system, more or less in its present form, is largely the result of the reorganization effected by the Constitution of 1846 which sought to rationalize the structure and jurisdiction of the courts. The Court for the Trial of Impeachment and the Correction of Errors was divested of its appellate jurisdiction and a new Court of Appeals was established. The Court of Chancery was abolished and its jurisdiction transferred to a reorganized, elective Supreme Court thereby making it the highest court of original, unlimited jurisdiction for questions of both law and equity. Eight General Terms of the Supreme Court, one for each judicial district, were established as courts of intermediate appeal. The Surrogate's Court was given constitutional recognition. In addition, the jurisdiction of the County Courts was significantly reduced and the Legislature was empowered to establish additional inferior civil and criminal courts as were deemed necessary.

The Judiciary Article added to the constitution in 1869 further reorganized the state court system. The Supreme Court was restructured by dividing the state into four departments. The previous eight districts were then distributed among the departments with each district consisting of three justices and a presiding justice (except that New York City had five justices). The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court remained the same, but judges could no longer sit in review of their own cases. The composition of the Court of Appeals was fixed at seven judges with a set term of fourteen years and mandatory retirement at seventy. A Temporary Commission of Appeals was created to help dispose of the backlog of cases that had built up in the Court of Appeals. This commission was originally tenured for three years but was continued by an amendment for two more years.

In order to deal with the large number of cases in the Supreme Court, the Legislature increased the number of justices in 1879 and 1882. To reduce the backlog of cases in the Court of Appeals, an 1888 constitutional amendment provided for a second division of the court. The Second Division of the Court of Appeals consisted of seven justices of the Supreme Court designated by the Governor to act as associate judges. The enlarged Supreme Court and the Second Division both continued until the Constitution of 1894 reorganized the judiciary.

The 1894 Constitution greatly increased the size and complexity of the Supreme Court. A number of lesser courts including all circuit courts and courts of oyer and terminer were abolished and reestablished as courts of the Supreme Courts. An Appellate Division of the Supreme Court was created to hear all appeals previously heard in the Supreme Court.

Between 1895 and 1915 several amendments were passed which enabled the judiciary to cope with the increase in litigation paralleling the State's population growth. In 1897 the Board of Claims, a tribunal which heard claims against the state, was reorganized as the Court of Claims. In 1899 the Court of Appeals was temporarily expanded in order to handle its backlog of cases. A 1905 amendment to the constitution enabled the Legislature to set specified ratios of justices to population. It also increased the number of judges at the Appellate Division and allowed for the establishment of an additional judicial district in the second district (Long Island). In 1913 the number of judges in the county courts was increased.

The Constitutional Convention of 1915 sought several reforms in the judiciary article in order to correct some of the system's weaknesses. However, the revised judiciary article and constitution were voted down. The dissatisfaction with the existing system led the Legislature to establish the Judiciary Convention of 1921 which reported the following year on the need for a court reorganization. As a result, the Judiciary Article of 1925 restructured the state's court system by moving some courts and expanding or decreasing the jurisdictions of several others. The jurisdiction of the City Court of New York and the various County Courts was expanded. New Children's Courts and Courts of Domestic Relations were created.

After operating with the same court system for over twenty years, a Temporary Commission on the Courts was created in 1953 to study problems that faced the judiciary. The Commission's study led to a significant reorganization of the judiciary in 1962 (Ch. 684 and 685) when a unified court system was established. The Administrative Board of the Judicial Conference was created with responsibility for the administration of the unified court system. This administrative board was composed of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the Presiding Justices of the four Appellate Divisions. The authority for the administrative supervision of the court system was further centralized in the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals as a result of a 1978 law (Ch. 156). This law calls for the Chief Judge to appoint a Chief Administrator of the Courts (who is called the Chief

Administrative Judge of the Courts if the incumbent is a judge). The Chief Administrator is responsible for supervising the administration and operation of the trial courts and for directing the Office of Court Administration which was created in 1974 (Ch. 615). In consultation with the Administrative Board of the Judicial Conference, the Chief Administrator establishes statewide administrative standards and policies.

Three major components make up the present-day state judiciary: The Court of Appeals, which is the state's highest court and possesses exclusively appellate jurisdiction, except in capital cases where it may rule on questions of both law and fact; the Supreme Court, which possesses original jurisdiction in both law and equity and has an Appellate Division; and the local courts including the Civil and Criminal Courts in New York City and the various county, district, town, city and village courts elsewhere in the state. In addition there are three specified courts: the Court of Claims, the Surrogate's Court and the Family Court.

See also: Department of State.

Records

Supreme Court (Albany County)

Writs, Summonses, Proceedings, and Case Summaries. 1757-1913. 2 cf.

Court of Common Pleas (Orange County)

Record of Cases. 1801-1850. 10 cf.

Greene County Court Records

Executions, Committments, Bail Bonds, and Indentures. 1803-1843. .5 cf.

Court of Oyer and Terminer (Queens County)

Minutes, Indictments, Bench Warrants, and List of Grand Jurors. 1787-1795. .5 cf.

Court of Oyer and Terminer (Various Locations)

Trial Transcripts. 1865-1868. .5 cf.

PART IV

APPENDIX

A Note on Local Government Records

The State Archives does not accession records of local governments. However, the Archives does have several hundred cubic feet of local government records that were transferred to the Archives from the State Library, where they had been deposited some years ago for secure storage. The Archives also holds microfilm copies of historical records of approximately 150 local governments. Most of this microfilm was produced by the New York State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission's Historical Records Microfilm Program as a special bicentennial project during 1974-1976. Under this program, the earliest records of selected communities were microfilmed and the film was later deposited in the State Archives to be made available for research. This microfilm is described in a separate publication, *Local Records on Microfilm in the New York State Archives*.

State law requires the consent of the Commissioner of Education before any municipality (except New York City) can dispose of records, and the State Archives provides archival and records management advisory services to New York State's local governments. Although the State Archives does not accession local government records, municipal records custodians are encouraged to provide for the protection and accessibility of permanently valuable records. During the past few years the State Archives, with the aid of funds from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, has cooperated with over a dozen local governments to establish model municipal archives, and similar archival programs have been established by many other localities. Archives and records management programs in New York City are carried out by that city's Department of Records and Information Services.

For further information on locating and using local government records contact the New York State Archives.